



**ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION**

**DECEMBER 19, 2005
2:00 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER

AGENDA

1. Call to Order--Roll Call.

The Invocation will be delivered by Vice-Mayor Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America will be led by Mayor C. Nelson Harris.

Welcome. Mayor Harris.

NOTICE:

Today's Council meeting will be replayed on Channel 3 on Thursday, December 22, 2005, at 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, December 24, 2005, at 4:00 p.m. Council meetings are offered with closed captioning for the hearing impaired.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT MEMBERS OF COUNCIL RECEIVE THE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA AND RELATED COMMUNICATIONS, REPORTS, ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS, ETC., ON THE WEDNESDAY PRIOR TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT TIME FOR REVIEW OF INFORMATION. CITIZENS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN OBTAINING A COPY OF ANY ITEM LISTED ON THE AGENDA MAY CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, ROOM 456, NOEL C. TAYLOR MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 215 CHURCH AVENUE, S. W., OR CALL 853-2541.

THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE PROVIDES THE MAJORITY OF THE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ON THE INTERNET FOR VIEWING AND RESEARCH PURPOSES. TO ACCESS AGENDA MATERIAL, GO TO THE CITY'S HOMEPAGE AT WWW.ROANOKEVA.GOV, CLICK ON THE ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL ICON, CLICK ON MEETINGS AND AGENDAS, AND DOWNLOAD THE ADOBE ACROBAT SOFTWARE TO ACCESS THE AGENDA.

ALL PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ARE REQUESTED TO REGISTER WITH THE STAFF ASSISTANT WHO IS LOCATED AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE COUNCIL CHAMBER. ON THE SAME AGENDA ITEM, ONE TO FOUR SPEAKERS WILL BE ALLOTTED FIVE MINUTES EACH, HOWEVER, IF THERE ARE MORE THAN FOUR SPEAKERS, EACH SPEAKER WILL BE ALLOTTED THREE MINUTES.

ANY PERSON WHO IS INTERESTED IN SERVING ON A CITY COUNCIL APPOINTED AUTHORITY, BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE IS REQUESTED TO CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT 853-2541, OR ACCESS THE CITY'S HOMEPAGE AT WWW.ROANOKEVA.GOV, TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION.

2. PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

ALL MATTERS LISTED UNDER THE CONSENT AGENDA ARE CONSIDERED TO BE ROUTINE BY THE MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THE ITEMS. IF DISCUSSION IS DESIRED, THE ITEM WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA AND CONSIDERED SEPARATELY.

- C-1 Minutes of the special meetings of Council held on Tuesday, November 1, 2005, and Thursday, November 3, 2005, and the regular meeting held on Monday, November 7, 2005. P 8;
P 75;
P 91

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve as recorded.

- C-2 A communication from Mayor C. Nelson Harris requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss vacancies on certain authorities, boards, commissions and committees appointed by Council, and to interview an applicant for a vacancy on the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(10), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended. P 141

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concur in the request.

- C-3 A communication from the City Manager requesting that Council schedule a public hearing for Tuesday, January 3, 2006, at 2:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, to execute a lease with Elias Azar d/b/a Azar Jewelry, Inc., for space located in the City Market Building. P 142

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Concur in the request.

REGULAR AGENDA

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

5. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

- a. A request of Ginny Harden, Director of Prevention for Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare, and Chair, Roanoke Prevention Planning Team, to present youth data – Roanoke Youth Advocates. (Sponsored by the City Manager.) P 143

6. REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

a. CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFINGS: NONE.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

1. Acceptance of Western Virginia Workforce Development Board Workforce Investment Act funds, in the amount of \$581,933.00, for Program Year 2005. P 144;
B/O 148;
R 150
2. Amendment of the City Code to revise parking regulations in order to increase the availability of downtown on-street parking and to increase the efficiency of parking enforcement fine collection efforts. P 151;
O 152

b. DIRECTOR OF FINANCE:

1. Authorization to issue up to \$5,500,000.00 in Bond Anticipation Notes to be reimbursed from bond proceeds from the upcoming bond sale. P 156

7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

- a. Request of the Roanoke City School Board for appropriation of funds to various school accounts; and a report of the Director of Finance recommending that Council concur in the request. Kenneth F. Mundy, Executive Director of Fiscal Services, Spokesperson. P 157;
B/O 160

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.

9. INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS: NONE.

10. MOTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

- a. Inquiries and/or comments by the Mayor and Members of City Council.
- b. Vacancies on certain authorities, boards, commissions and committees appointed by Council.

11. HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS:

CITY COUNCIL SETS THIS TIME AS A PRIORITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD. MATTERS REQUIRING REFERRAL TO THE CITY MANAGER WILL BE REFERRED IMMEDIATELY FOR RESPONSE, RECOMMENDATION OR REPORT TO COUNCIL.

12. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION.

THE COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE DECLARED IN RECESS TO BE RECONVENED AT 7:00 P.M., IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 450, NOEL C. TAYLOR MUNICIPAL BUILDING.



**ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION**

**DECEMBER 19, 2005
7:00 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER

AGENDA

Call to Order -- Roll Call.

The Invocation will be delivered by Council Member Sherman P. Lea.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America will be led by Mayor C. Nelson Harris.

Welcome. Mayor Harris.

NOTICE:

Tonight's Council meeting will be replayed on Channel 3 on Thursday, December 21, 2005, at 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, December 24, 2005, at 4:00 p.m. Council meetings are offered with closed captioning for the hearing impaired.

PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

First Annual Fire Prevention Week Art Contest – Recognition of winners.

Recognition of H. David Hoback, recipient, 2005 Governor’s Award for Outstanding EMS Administrator.

A. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Request of Fielden and Mary Bayne that a portion of Laura Road, N. W., be permanently vacated, discontinued and closed. Fielden Bayne, Spokesperson. P 162;
O 169
2. Proposal of the City of Roanoke to amend Vision 2001–2020, the City’s Comprehensive Plan, to include the Roanoke Library Comprehensive Study. R. Brian Townsend, Agent, City Planning Commission. P 172;
O 178
3. Proposal of the City of Roanoke to amend the City Charter to add new Section 19.1, authorizing advisory referenda in the City of Roanoke on “any proposed question or group of questions relating to the affairs of the City.” William M. Hackworth, City Attorney. P 180;
R 181

B. HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS:

CITY COUNCIL SETS THIS TIME AS A PRIORITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD. MATTERS REQUIRING REFERRAL TO THE CITY MANAGER WILL BE REFERRED IMMEDIATELY FOR RESPONSE, RECOMMENDATION OR REPORT TO COUNCIL.

ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL

November 1, 2005

4:00 p.m.

A special meeting of the Council of the City of Roanoke was called to order on Tuesday, November 1, 2005, at 4:00 p.m., in Room 159, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, with Mayor C. Nelson Harris presiding.

PRESENT: Council Members M. Rupert Cutler, Alfred T. Dowe, Jr., Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Sherman P. Lea, Brenda L. McDaniel, Brian J. Wishneff and Mayor C. Nelson Harris-----7.

ABSENT: None-----0.

The Mayor declared the existence of a quorum.

At 4:05 p.m., the Mayor declared the special meeting in recess to be immediately reconvened in the City Council Chamber, Room 450, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke.

At 4:10 p.m., the special meeting reconvened in the City Council Chamber, with all members of the Council in attendance, Mayor Harris presiding.

The Mayor declared the existence of a quorum.

The invocation was delivered by Council Member Sherman P. Lea.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mayor Harris.

The Mayor read the following letter calling the special meeting of Council:

"Pursuant to Section 10, Meetings of Council Generally, Charter of the City of Roanoke, this is to advise you that I am calling a special meeting of the Council on Tuesday, November 1, 2005, at 4:00 p.m., in Room 159, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke.

The purpose of the special meeting is to receive the report of HEERY International Corporation with regard to Victory Stadium."

Mayor Harris advised that the Council would be briefed on the Stadium Study Report prepared by Heery International, Inc., and the Victory Stadium Market and Financial Analysis report prepared by Conventions, Sports & Leisure International ("CSL"), copies of which would be available for review by the public at the Main Library and all branch libraries, and personal copies could be obtained for approximately \$35.00.

Mayor Harris stated that representatives of Heery International, Inc., and CSL International would present their report without interruption, followed by a brief recess and Council Members would then make comments and ask questions of the consultants. He further stated that the meeting was not considered to be a public hearing and the Council would not entertain public comments.

The City Manager advised that Charles Anderson, Architect, representing the Engineering Division of the City's Department of Public Works, served as lead staff person on the project, which included issuance of the original Request for Proposals (RFP), review of responses to the RFP, and he served with two City Council Members on a committee to select consultants.

Mr. Anderson introduced Michael Holleman, Vice-President, Heery International; Brian Parker, representing Conventions, Sports & Leisure International ("CSL International"); and John Garland, representing Spectrum Design, and specializing in Historic Tax Credits.

Mr. Holleman stated that the purpose of the Victory Stadium Study was to:

- Evaluate existing conditions of Victory Stadium
- Develop five options requested by Council
- Review the project on the Victory Stadium site
- Prepare a comparative analysis.

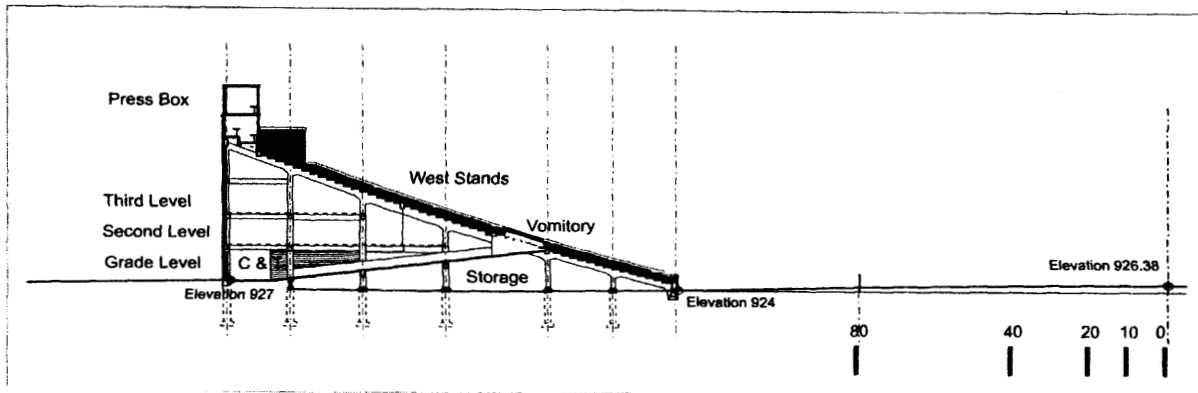
He further stated that the consultant would not make a recommendation, but would provide Council with the facts on which to make a decision.

He stated that the agenda would cover the following main issues:

- The floodplain
- An assessment of the existing stadium
- Historic Tax Credits
- Five specific options
- Discussion with regard to revenue potential and market analysis
- Financial discussion

Mr. Holleman advised that the floodplain is a major and costly issue and called attention to pictures of the floodwater up to the vomitory height of the stadium; and floodplain issues have been discussed with URS, a consulting firm from Norfolk, Virginia, and with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. He stated that a levy system is being constructed, but there is no guarantee that the system will be completed, and funding has been allocated for the first section.

Levels and elevation of Stadium

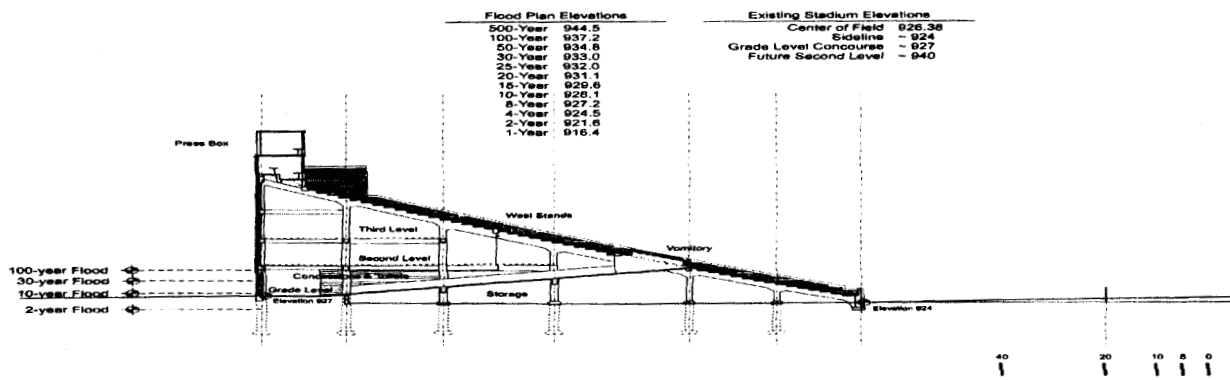


He advised that:

- The above diagram contains lines which show the floodplain areas that go from the two year, three year, 30-year, all the way up to the 100-year floodplain.
- The good news about the levy is that the area of the site will be protected through the ten year floodplain, and beyond that the site will continue to flood.
- Some of the wall is built for the 30-year floodplain, but water comes in from the back side and will flood the site when it reaches above the ten year floodplain.
- There is a crown when looking at midfield and back through the stadium, the elevation at 924 is below the floodplain and at 927 there is a lower level underneath the stadium where locker rooms are currently located which is in the flood zone.
- The stadium was constructed to accommodate the addition of other floors in the future, reinforcing bars protrude from the beams and the stadium is capable of handling another floor in the future, which would be on two levels: the lower level and a smaller upper level.

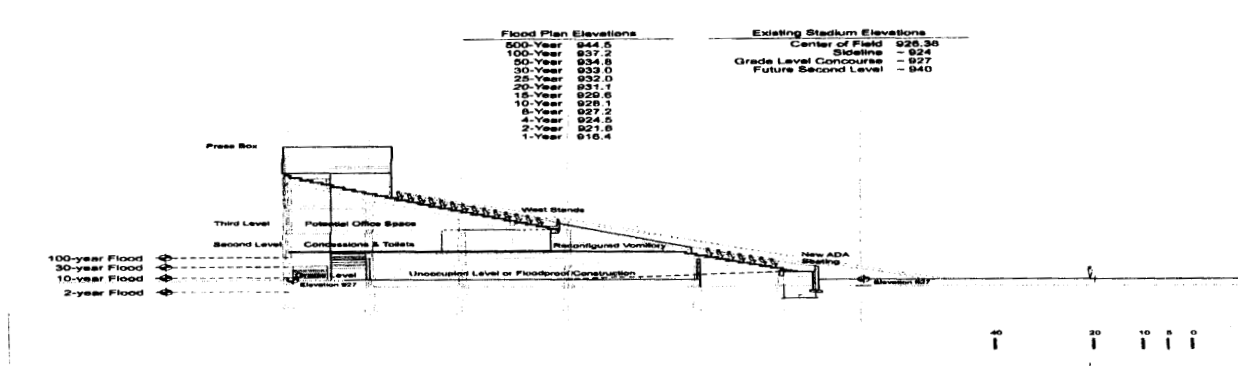
- Looking at floodplain numbers, the 100-year floodplain is about three feet below the level of the future floor, which would provide an opportunity to move things up to that level in the event of flooding.
- The ten year floodplain is at the lower concourse, so if facilities were provided under the stadium, which may flood on occasion after the 10, 50, 100 year floods, they could be floodproofed through a kind of "hose down" construction, which would have both negative and positive aspects.

Flood Plan Elevations and Existing Stadium Elevations



- This section shows the second level, which would be above the 100 year floodplain, with enough space that floodproofing could be done for a level below.
- The section also shows the front row of the stadium removed; the first bay of the stadium, or about nine rows, would be removed and replaced with a wheelchair seating area for the handicapped.

Flood Plan Elevations - Proposed Second Level Renovations and Field Elevations:



- Previous reports and analysis include the following issues concerning the existing stadium: loose brick on the stadium, rusted ties that hold the brick to the structure which can be a potential long-term problem, an extremely small seating area, lack of restroom and concession amenities, and track and field condition.
- Numerous code issues exist.
- Victory Stadium was constructed and complied with the Life Safety Code; any renovations must comply with current codes, which include ADA, Life Safety Code, plumbing code, etc.

Positive considerations are:

- The existing stadium is structurally sound and is constructed on deep foundations, but the soil contains a considerable amount of silt because it is located in a floodplain, and it would be necessary to dig down some distance in order to hit good bedrock;
- The structure is not sinking, but slab on grade areas in the lower level have sunk causing some cracking;
- Sufficient capacity seating exists for anything that the City wishes to do;
- The stadium has a good history and memories of great events;
- The stadium is located on an existing site that is currently owned by the City.

Mr. Holleman advised that in order to be eligible for the Historic Tax Credits, the stadium would have to be registered as a historic landmark; preliminary meetings have been held with representatives of the State Office of Historic Preservation who have indicated that Victory Stadium is a facility that could be placed on the historic landmarks list; and everything within the footprint of the stadium itself which includes the east stands to the west stands, as well as the playing field, could be eligible for up to 20% Federal and 25% State funds, and the savings would come back to the City, or to the organization representing the City that would take the tax credits that may be in the neighborhood of 35%. For example, he stated that if the eligible cost is \$10 million, proceeds to the City would be \$3.5 million.

Mr. Holleman explained that the five options that Heery was instructed to consider are:

- Option 1 - Existing stadium from a tax credit point of view;
- Option 2 - Existing stadium from a non-tax credit point of view;
- Option 3 - New stadium on the same site with 5,000 seats;
- Option 4 - New stadium on the same site with 10,000 seats; and
- Option 5 - New stadium on the same site with 15,000 seats.

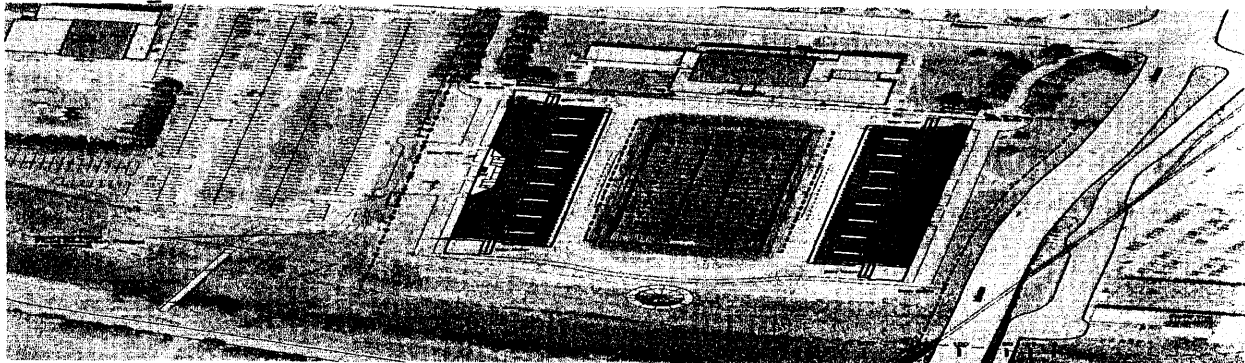
He advised that:

- The basic program included bench seats, restrooms and concessions for 8,000 people; however, the feasibility of the number of events and the number of persons in attendance most likely would not be 15,000 or 20,000, therefore, a considerable amount of money would be spent for restrooms that are not needed, which would be negotiable; it would be possible to renovate existing lower restrooms to make up the difference or temporary facilities could be used; an expanded or improved press box, support space of 11,000 square feet net, locker rooms, dressing rooms, rooms for coaches and officials, and improvements to field lighting.
- Optional program areas include a new field; if the field is used with a great deal of frequency, it may be advisable to level out the playing field and install artificial turf with a full drainage system.
- The architectural façade must remain the same whether it is replaced or repaired in place in order to qualify for the Historic Tax Credit, which would impact other options regarding the type of architectural presence at the site; i.e.: it could be a “plain Jane” kind of facility or a facility of comparable nature to the current Victory Stadium.
- Site aesthetics is another optional issue; i.e.: leave the site as is or improve the site with better landscaping, gateways, arches, ticketing facilities, etc.
- Another option would be to construct locker rooms above the floodplain at a higher level in lieu of floodproofing and building locker rooms underneath the stadium.

Mr. Holleman reviewed the following options:

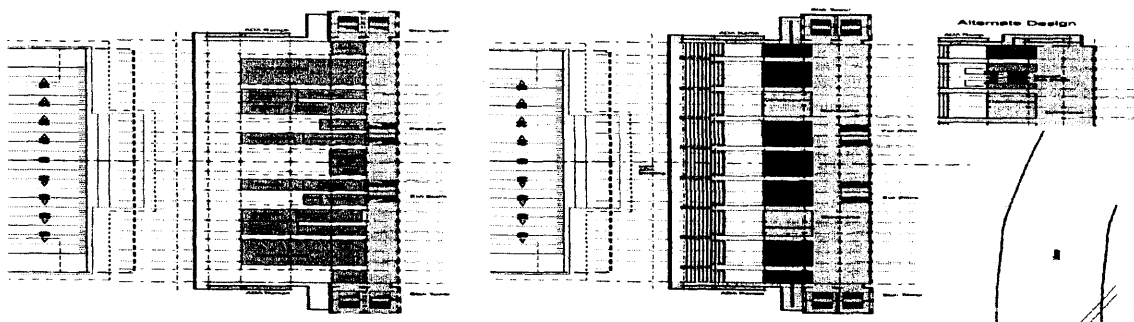
Option 1 - Existing Stadium - Historic Rehabilitation with Historic Tax Credit

Historic Rehabilitation - Site Plan

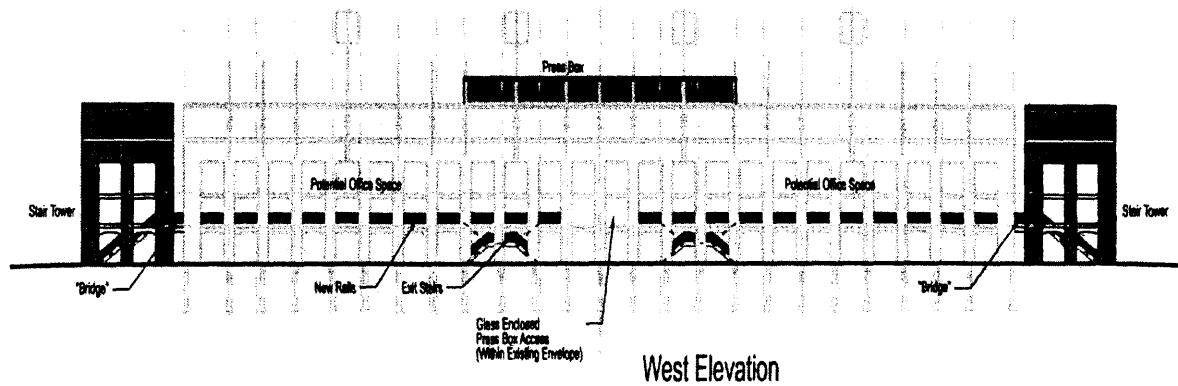


- One of the main issues with the current stadium is that the stairs do not meet current Life Saving Code standards in the aisles, however, that could be corrected in the stands when the seats are redone; redoing the front row of seats can improve the situation for disabled persons using wheelchairs; if restrooms and concessions are moved to the second floor, stairs will be needed, within the facility and outbound on the stair tower, however, anything built outside of the stadium footprint will not be eligible for historic tax credits, therefore, consideration can be given to an alternate scheme that gives up some of the restroom facilities and places the stair tower within the structure to save money, and leave the handicapped ramp outbound leading up to the wheelchair positions.
- Everything within the stadium footprint, including the field, will be eligible for Historic Tax Credit; and site costs that are beyond the footprint of the building; i.e.: parking, fencing and gateways on the outside are not eligible for Historic Tax Credits.

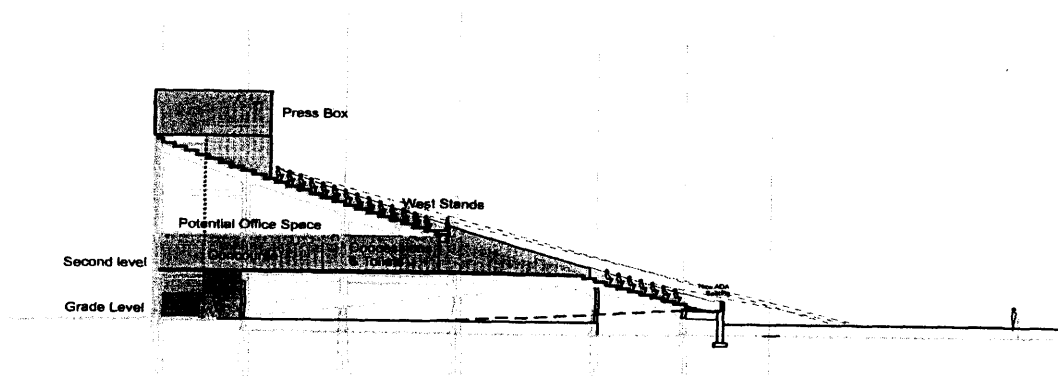
Historic Rehabilitation - Concourse Level



Historic Rehabilitation – Exterior Elevations



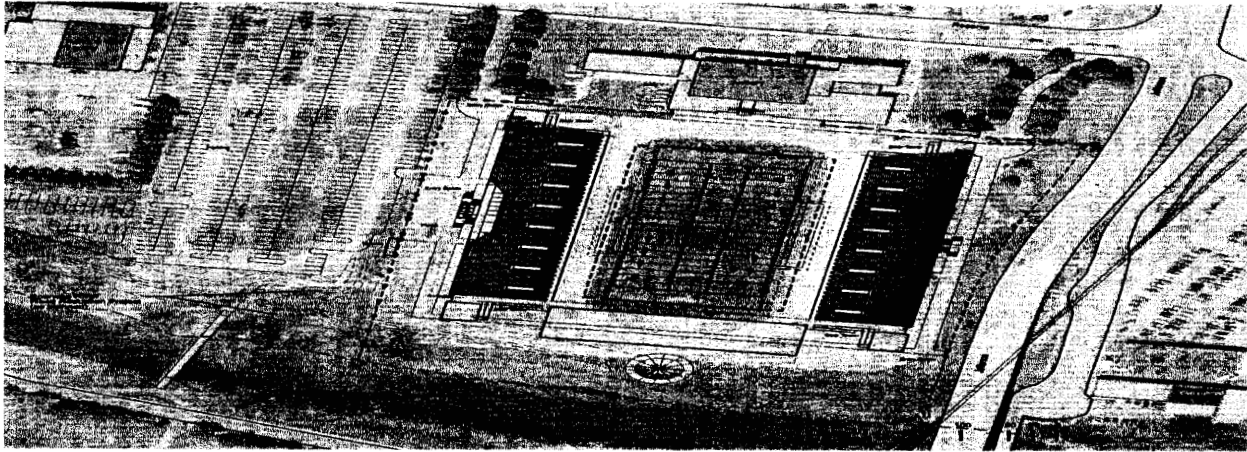
Historic Rehabilitation – Stadium Section



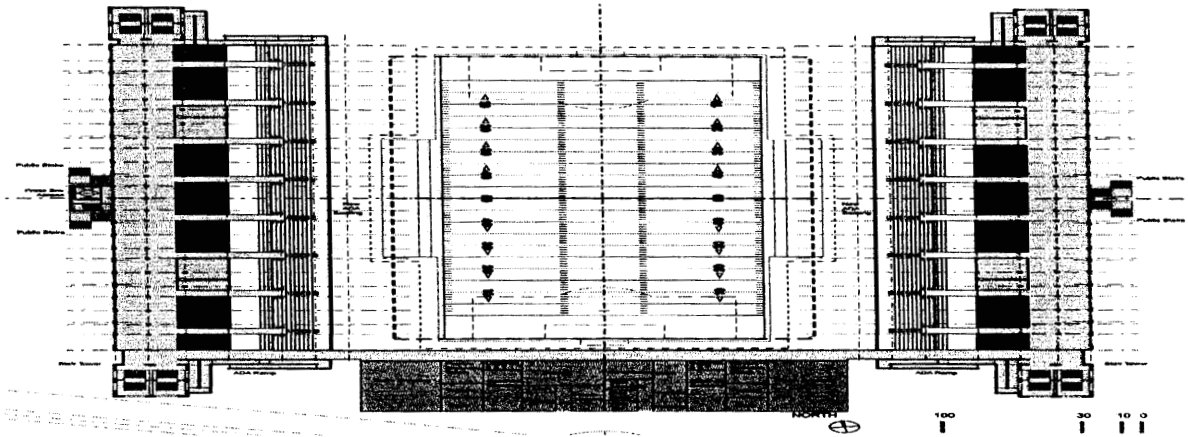
- This section shows space underneath that would be raised up about six inches above the existing concourse outside which would place the space just above the ten-year floodplain; and patrons would go up the stairs to the concourse and walk straight out into the grandstand.
- The press box is currently bricked to a certain height; an addition was later constructed for a camera deck which does not fit within the original architecture; an elevator will need to be installed to the press box to meet ADA requirements, which will be located inside the building and would come up in the middle of the press box; and expansion of the press box toward the field side would uplift the elevator and stair access and provide the right facilities for the press box.

Option 2 - Existing Stadium - General Renovation Without Tax Credit

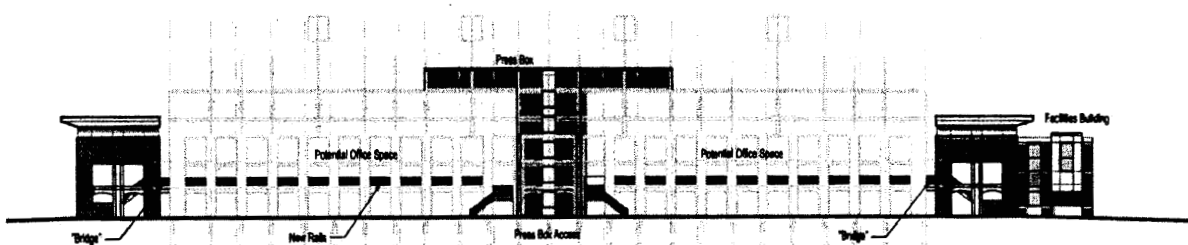
General Renovation - Site Plan



General Renovation - Concourse Level



General Renovation - Exterior Elevations

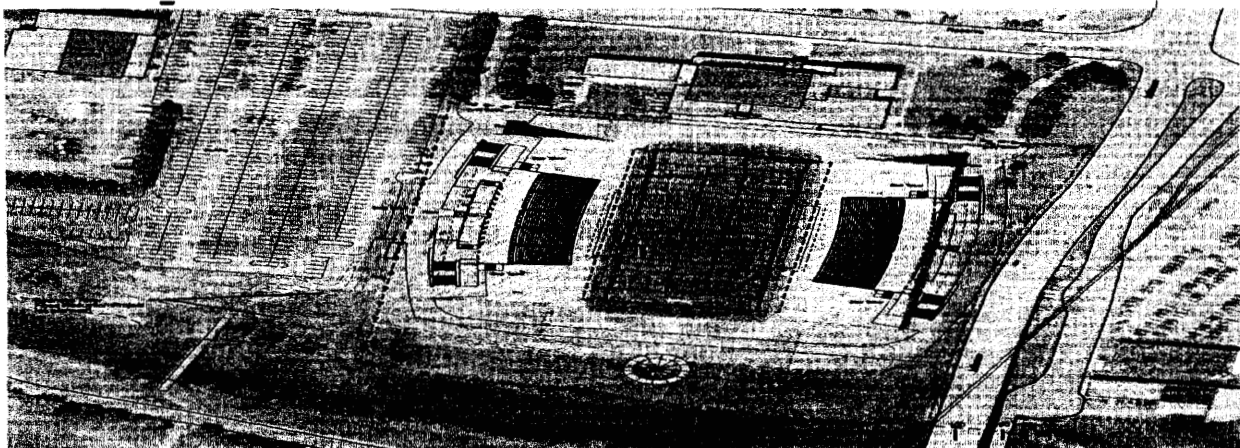


West Elevation

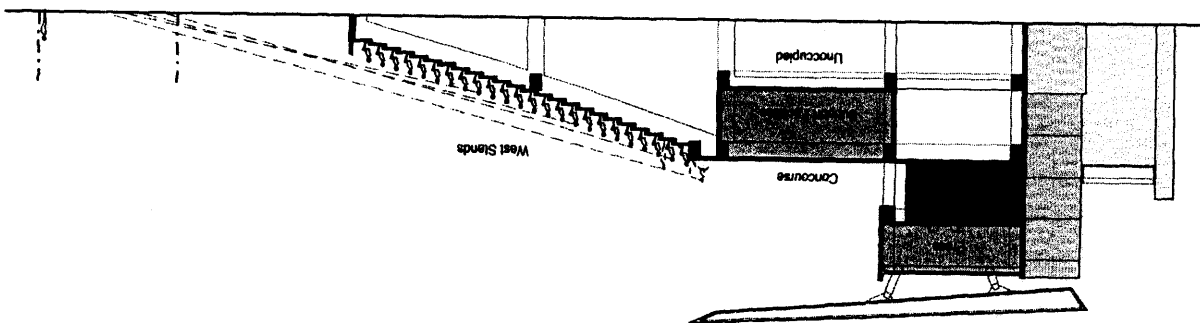
- This option does not qualify for Historic Tax Credit; all of the brick would not have to be put back on the building; there would be an optional choice to either remove all of the brick and leave the structure exposed, or remove all of the brick and replace brick in certain areas.
- In addition, support facilities could be left underneath the stands or, if they are taken out of the floodplain, a building could be constructed in the end zone, possibly the fountain end at the river, or a 14,000 square foot facility could be constructed for locker rooms above the floodplain; players would have to come out of the facility and go down the stairs to reach the playing field which is rarely done because players would be wearing cleats that would pose a trip hazard; or construct a ramp which would be more costly due to the need for a connector that would extend between the concourses from one side of the stadium to the other.
- Site costs include areas from the perimeter fence around the facility up to the building.
- New landscaping and a wrought iron fence with brick piers to upgrade the appearance of the stadium from the outside.

Option 3 – New 5,000 Seat Stadium

New 5,000 Seat Stadium – Site Plan



New 5,000 Seat Stadium - Stadium Sections



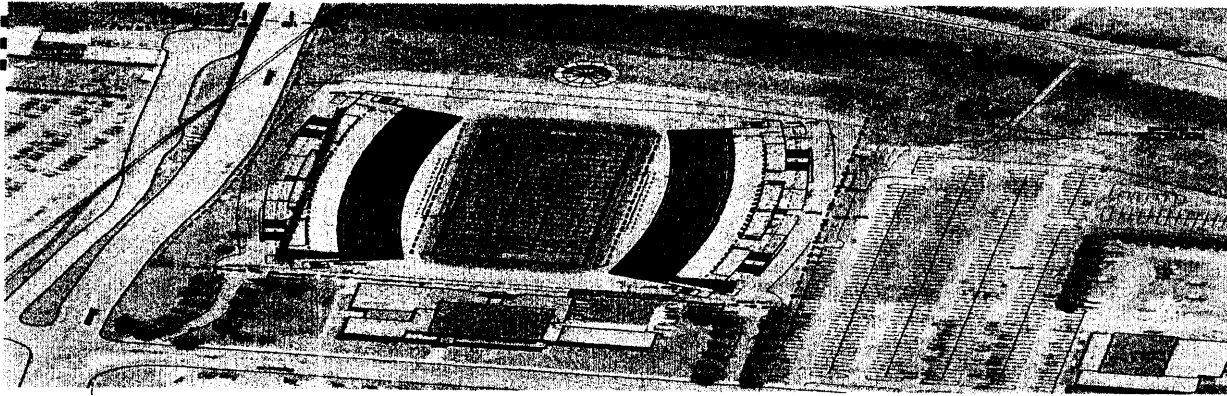
- A new 5,000 seat stadium reflects an equal number of seats on each side of the stadium; however, there could be consideration for 3,000 seats on one side and 2,000 on the other, depending on whether there is a home field side and a visiting side.

- This option is straight forward with a football field and a soccer field; seats are concentrated between the 20-yard lines, with access to a concourse in the back, and restrooms and concessions located above the floodplain.

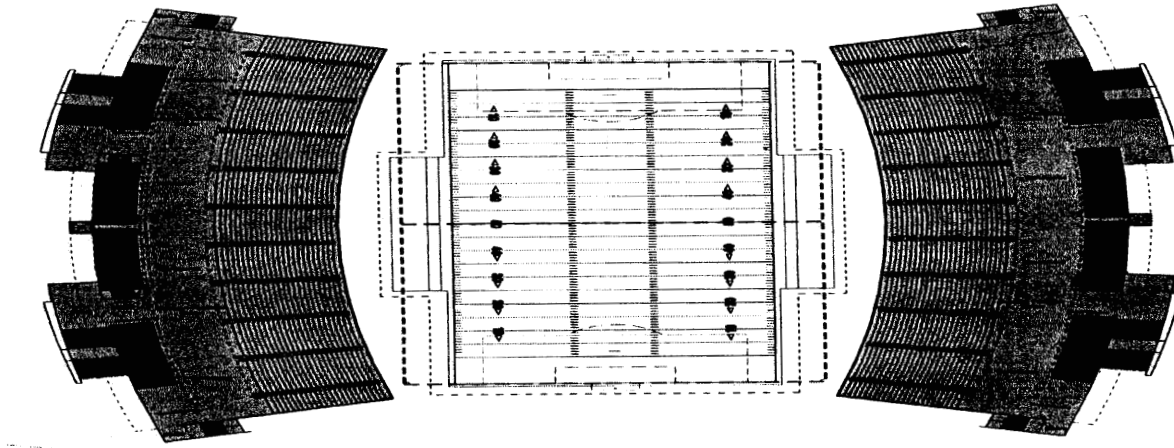
- This scenario would incur an added cost compared to building on a site that has great soil and no floods. Construction of the concourse, restrooms and concessions in the air is favorable from a fan's perspective, because they can still see out into the field; stands and ADA compliant wheelchair seating would be at the top and support facilities could either be at grade level as shown above or there is sufficient height to raise them underneath the level; and it would be less expensive than constructing the building in the end zone.

Option 4 - New 10,000 Seat Stadium

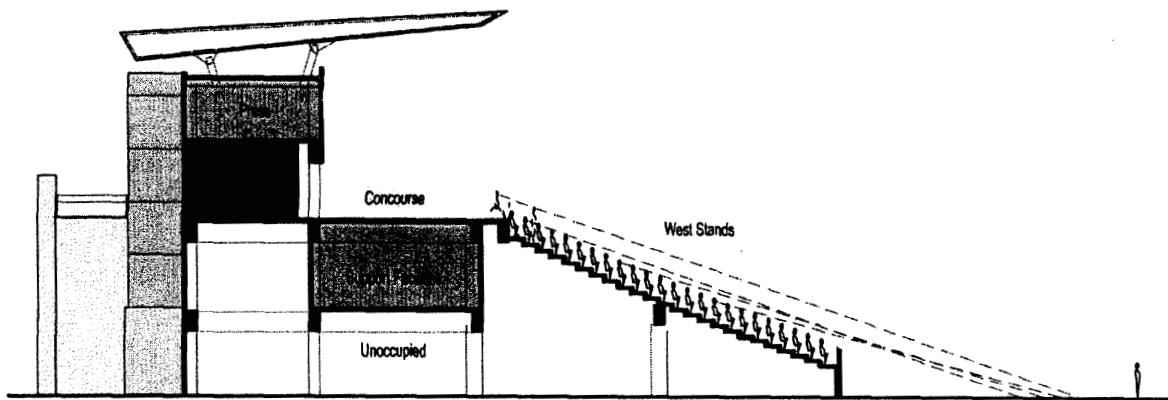
New 10,000 Seat Stadium - Site Plan



New 10,000 Seat Stadium – Concourse Level



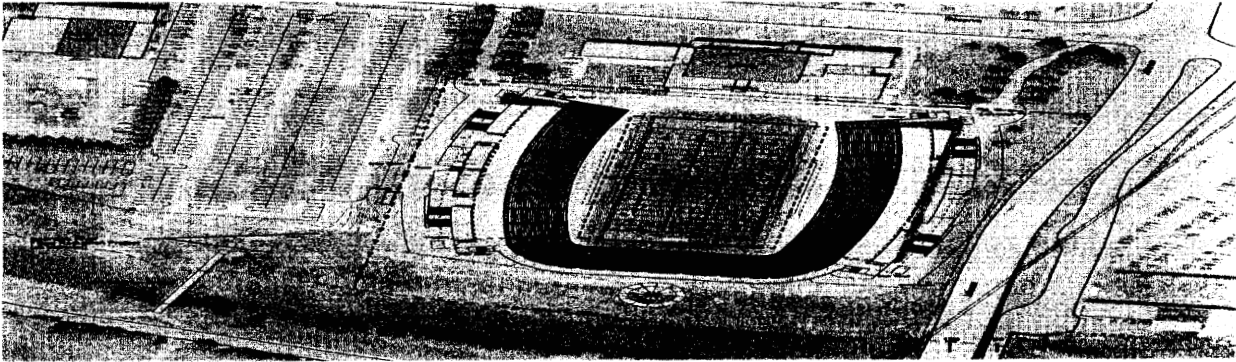
New 10,000 Seat Stadium – Stadium Sections



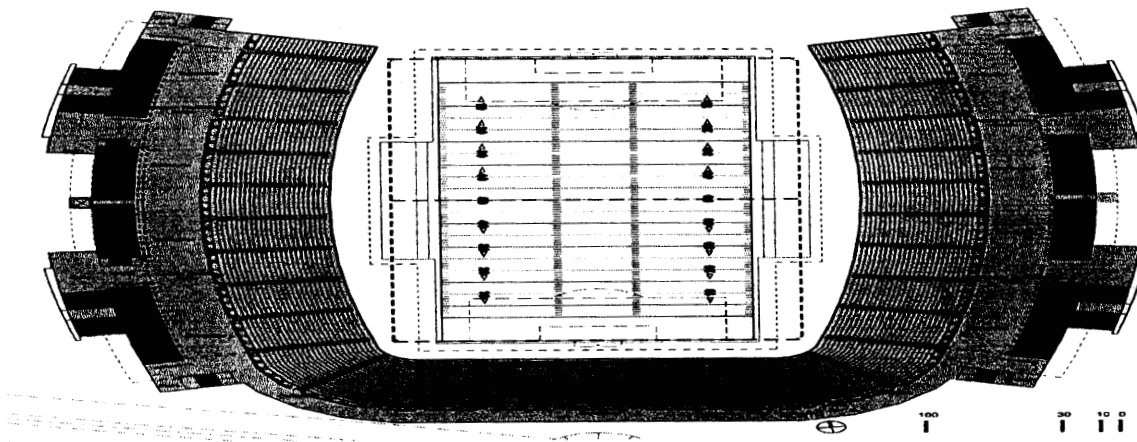
- The 10,000-seat option is similar to the 5,000 seat concept, but extends farther down the sidelines and goes to the end of the end zones.
- It is a comfortable plan, with stairs, restrooms and concessions on upper level and the ability to look down onto the field.
- A plus with regard to a 10,000 seat facility is that it begins to enclose the stadium.

Option 5 – New 15,000 Seat Stadium:

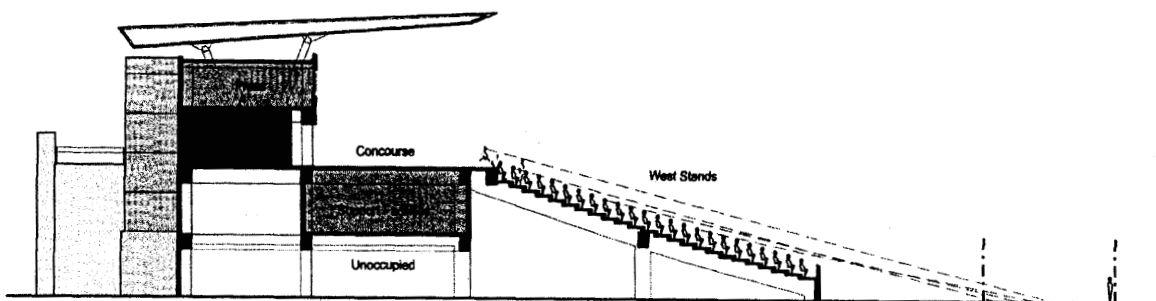
New 15,000 Seat Stadium – Site Plan



New 15,000 Seat Stadium – Concourse Level



New 15,000 Seat Stadium – Stadium Sections



- The 15,000-seat option provides for a concourse, stands that go up and patrons would go through vomitories similar to the current Victory Stadium.

- Another concept allows for a concourse allowing patrons to look down onto the field, and the remainder of the seats could be placed in one of the end zones.
- The concept also allows for a U-shaped stadium that would contain 15,000 seats, which is about two rows deeper than the previous concept, with restrooms and concessions on the side of the concourse, and a connecting walkway at the rear.
- This scenario provides a more intimate type of stadium. If the National Guard Armory building were removed from the present site, the area could become a full court or grassy area that would lead to the stadium and could accommodate both football and soccer.

Schedule

- The schedule is similar for completing all five concepts, which could be completed for the football season of 2007, with construction commencing in May 2006.
- The schedule provides for: notice to proceed, design phase, schematics, design development, construction documents, procurement, and construction.
- The renovated concepts require some renovation before the football season, and work would continue through the football season.
- The new stadium concept requires demolition of the existing stadium; i.e.: demolishing one side and leaving the other side for one season for use by fans; immediately following that season, demolition would occur on the other side, followed by construction; the end date would be the same; one side of the stands would be missing for one year, however, there is sufficient capacity and unless there is an issue with regard to separating fans from one side of the stadium from the other, it would be a workable solution.

Operating and Maintenance Costs

- Operating and maintenance costs of Victory Stadium are presently shown to be \$232,000.00; depending on whether the stadium has 5,000 seats or 18,000 seats, projected costs range between \$250,000.00 and \$217,000.00; and certain basic costs will be incurred regardless.

At this point, Mr. Holleman turned the presentation over to Brian Parker, representing Conventions, Sports & Leisure International ("CSL International").

Mr. Parker advised that CSL International was requested to join the team with Heery International when the initial RFP was issued; Heery International reviewed physical capabilities and CSL International identified market demand and support in terms of facilities and types of events, the types of uses that a stadium in Roanoke could accommodate, needed capacities, and financials based on the abovereferenced scenarios.

Mr. Parker reviewed the following Victory Stadium Market and Financial Analysis report:

Victory Stadium has provided the Roanoke region with a major outdoor venue for football games, soccer matches, concerts, festivals and various other events since 1941. The 25,000-seat Stadium has hosted a number of collegiate football games in its history, including the annual game between Virginia Tech and the Virginia Military Institute, which was held at the Stadium until 1971, and the Western Virginia Education Classic, which will play its sixth annual game at the Stadium in 2005. The facility has also hosted a variety of regular season and postseason high school football, soccer and lacrosse games over the years, and currently serves as the home field for the William Fleming High School and Patrick Henry High School football programs. In addition to sports events, the Stadium has served as the primary outdoor venue in Roanoke for concerts and various community and other events.

While Victory Stadium has a storied history, the 64-year old structure has several deficiencies in comparison with more modern stadiums, including:

- General deterioration of the structure, including exterior walls and seating areas;
- Lack of modern amenities for fans;
- Inadequate disabled access;
- Susceptibility to flooding; and,
- Other such deficiencies.

The disrepair of the Stadium's bleachers has resulted in unsafe conditions for fans in much of the seating areas, resulting in a current capacity of approximately 4,000 usable seats. This limited effective capacity, along with the aforementioned Stadium deficiencies, have hindered the ability of the Stadium to attract strong event and attendance levels.

In order to address the poor state of the existing Stadium, the City of Roanoke ("the City") has been considering various renovation and replacement options for the Stadium for a number of years. However, none of these plans have been enacted to date due to disagreements on the part of several constituencies concerning the appropriate course of action. Currently, the City is considering several potential development options, as follows:

- Renovate Victory Stadium, reducing the capacity to approximately 18,000 seats;
- Build a new stadium on the same site, with a capacity of 15,000;
- Build a new stadium on the same site, with a capacity of 10,000; or,
- Build a new stadium on the same site, with a capacity of 5,000.

In order to evaluate the feasibility of each potential development option, the City retained the team of Heery International ("Heery") and Conventions, Sports and Leisure International ("CSL") to evaluate various issues related to each development option, including:

- Potential event demand;
- Potential annual financial performance, including operating revenues and operating and maintenance expenses; and,
- Other such issues.

CSL's primary role in the study was to assess the market and financial feasibility of each potential development option. Key tasks completed by CSL included:

- Assembled and analyzed key operating issues related to the development of a new or renovated stadium;
- Reviewed historical event and attendance levels of Victory Stadium;
- Assembled and analyzed the physical characteristics, event levels and financial performance of several comparable stadiums throughout the country;
- Analyzed the potential event mix of each potential development option utilizing a number of research methods including interviews with event organizers, the results of the aforementioned analyses, and various other techniques; and,

- Developed a financial model based on the estimated levels of utilization and patron spending derived from the market analysis, comparable facility analysis, and other information pertaining to the Roanoke market.

The following report focuses on the study methods and results of the aforementioned research and analyses, and is presented to the Task Force in order to assist in making informed decisions with regard to the future of its sports and entertainment facilities. The report is divided into the following sections:

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Comparable Facility Analysis
- 3.0 Market Demand Analysis
- 4.0 Preliminary Financial Analysis

2.0 Comparable Facility Analysis

Victory Stadium lacks many of the amenities and characteristics typically associated with more modern stadium venues. In order to identify specific areas of potential improvement for Victory Stadium it is helpful to gain an understanding of the physical and operational characteristics of modern stadiums. The purpose of this section is to present an analysis of the physical and operational characteristics of existing stadiums that can be considered comparable to a new or renovated Stadium in Roanoke. The stadiums included in the analysis consist of stadiums that have been built or renovated in recent years, have similar capacities to the various Victory Stadium development options, and share operational characteristics and an event focus that is similar to the proposed new or renovated Stadium.

Through research of existing facility databases, information received from various publications, and discussions with facility management, information was gathered on each stadium, including physical characteristics, event levels and other operational issues.

Stocker Memorial Stadium - Grand Junction, Colorado

The 5,100-seat Stocker Memorial Stadium is owned by the City of Grand Junction and operated by the City's Parks and Recreation Department. The Stadium opened in 1949, but has undergone several renovations in recent years to bring it up to the standards of more modern facilities. The Stadium features a natural grass football field and a $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile track, but is not able to accommodate a full-size soccer field.

Four area high schools play their home football games at the Stadium, accounting for approximately 22 events per year. Mesa State College, an NCAA Division II program, also plays five to six football games at the Stadium each year. The Stadium also hosts the graduation ceremonies for Mesa State College and each of the four high schools, as well as special events such as marching band festivals, Special Olympic events, the Shrine Circus, a cancer walk and various other events. The Stadium's track hosts high school track meets, and recently hosted the Hershey Track and Field Games. In total, the Stadium hosts approximately 50 events in a typical year.

Legion Stadium - Wilmington, North Carolina

The 6,000-seat Legion Stadium originally opened in the 1930's, but recently underwent a major two-phased renovation. Phase I renovations were completed in 2001 and included installation of a new drainage system and turf, new facade, seating, restrooms, and concessions, press box improvements, a new parking lot and general landscaping and site improvements. Phase II was completed in 2003 and included new locker rooms and a new concession stand. The Stadium is owned and operated by the City of Wilmington.

Legion Stadium is currently the home of New Hanover High School athletics. The school plays all of its football, soccer and lacrosse games at the Stadium. The facility is also home to two semi-pro football teams and the Wilmington Hammerheads of the PSL, a professional soccer league. The Stadium also hosts four to six special events a year such as concerts and art shows. Excluding athletic team practices, approximately 65 events or games are held annually at Legion Stadium. The current rental rate for the stadium is \$750.00, but the City is considering increasing the rate to \$1,000.00 per event in the future.

Civic Field - Bellingham, Washington

Civic Field is owned by the City of Bellingham and operated by the City's Parks and Recreation Department. The 6,000-seat stadium opened in 1960, and is currently undergoing a \$10 million renovation which will include a new scoreboard, remodeled locker rooms and improved ADA access.

Civic Field's artificial Field Turf playing surface allows it to host a high number of events on an annual basis with relatively low field maintenance costs. The field serves as the home of the Division II Western Washington University's football and soccer programs.

In addition, three local high schools utilize the field for varsity and junior varsity home games. The field also hosts a few community events each year and is available for public rentals for recreational soccer practices and other such uses. The Stadium also features a track, which hosts a number of collegiate and high school track meets, as well as occasional meets organized by the City. All told, the stadium averages approximately 300 uses per year. The rental fee for the stadium ranges from \$800.00 to \$1,600.00.

Hugh Mills Stadium - Albany, Georgia

The 10,000-seat Hugh Mills Stadium is owned by the City of Albany/Dougherty County combined government and is operated by the Dougherty County School District. The Stadium features a natural grass playing surface and originally opened in 1932. A series of renovations over several years have allowed the Stadium to remain viable for various types of events.

The Stadium was formerly the home of the Albany State University football program until the University constructed its own on-campus stadium in 2005. The Stadium's current tenants include four local high schools, each of which play all of their home football games at the stadium. In addition to high school football games, the Stadium hosts several high school track meets each year, including the three-day State girl's public school meet and the three-day State boys and girls private school meet. Other stadium utilization includes a variety of youth league football games. Stadium management estimates that approximately 60 events are held at the stadium on an annual basis. The Stadium's base rental rate is \$300.00 per event. For high school football games and other events with significant ticket sales, an additional rental fee of \$1.00 per ticket is assessed in addition to the \$300.00 base fee.

Municipal Stadium - Daytona Beach, Florida

The City of Daytona Beach owns and operates Municipal Stadium, which opened in 1988. The stadium has a capacity of 10,000 seats, including 6,000 seats on the home side and 4,000 seats on the visitors' side of the Stadium.

The Stadium serves as the home of Bethune Cookman University's football program, as well as three local high school football teams. The Stadium also hosts several state high school postseason games and occasional high school and other soccer games. Stadium management indicated that, while the Stadium is capable of hosting concerts, very few have historically been held there.

Along with the football field, the Stadium features a ¼-mile motorsports track, which hosts a variety of go-kart and motorcycle races. The field and track combine to host approximately 80 events in a typical year.

Howard Wood Field - Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Howard Wood Field is a 10,000-seat stadium capable of hosting football, soccer and track and field events. The stadium is owned by the City of Sioux Falls and operated by the Sioux Falls School District. The facility originally opened in 1958. In 2003, a new artificial surface was installed, allowing the Field to increase its annual event levels. Additional renovations completed in 2005 included the addition of new concessions and restroom facilities.

Four local high schools use the Field for a portion of their varsity and junior varsity football and soccer schedules. In addition, Augustana College and the University of Sioux Falls both use the field for all of their home football games and occasional practices. Other events held at the stadium include Pee Wee and middle school football games, postseason high school football games, an annual band festival and occasional track meets. In total, school district representatives estimate that the field is used approximately 100 times per year, compared to 30 uses per year prior to the installation of artificial turf. The Field's rental rate ranges from approximately \$60.00 for practices to \$500.00 for events utilizing only the playing field, to \$3,300.00 for collegiate football games.

Lion Stadium - Ennis, Texas

The Ennis School District opened the 10,000-seat Lion Stadium in 2001. The \$13.6 million stadium features a Field Turf playing surface capable of hosting football and soccer games, as well as a ¼-mile track. Additional stadium amenities include a two-story, 7,500-square foot press box that incorporates a VIP room, radio broadcast booths and scout seating, as well as a 20 by 36-foot scoreboard and state of the art sound system.

The Stadium hosts the District's varsity and junior varsity football home games, as well as a portion of the varsity and junior varsity soccer schedule. Additional District utilization includes home track meets and graduation ceremonies. The Stadium is rented out to neighboring districts for postseason playoff football games approximately three to four times per year. In total, District officials estimate that the Stadium is used approximately 25 times per season.

Braly Municipal Stadium - Florence, Alabama

The 14,215-seat Braly Municipal Stadium originally opened in the 1950's and underwent a major renovation in 1998. The Year Opened 1950 renovation included the addition of 1,200 seats, improvements to the press box and coach's booths, additional restrooms, new stands on the east side of the stadium and cleaning and repainting throughout the stadium. The Stadium features a three-level press box capable of accommodating up to 50 sportswriters as well as coaching staffs, public address announcer, clock operator and radio crews and television crews.

The Stadium is used exclusively for football games and practices, including the home games of the University of North Alabama and Florence High School, along with various regional postseason high school football games. In addition, the Stadium has hosted the NCAA Division II football championship game each year since 1986 and is under contract to continue hosting the game through 2009. In total, the facility hosts approximately 60 events in a typical year.

Summary

Within this section, physical and operational characteristics of a number of recently built or renovated municipal stadiums have been presented. The following table summarizes this information.

Comparable Stadium Summary					
	Stocker Memorial Stadium	Legion Stadium	Civic Field	Hugh Mills Stadium	
Location	Grand Junction, CO	Wilmington, NC	Bellingham, WA	Albany, GA	
Market Population	126,700	301,800	180,100	162,400	
Year Opened	1949	1930	1960	1932	
Year Renovated	2000-05	2001-03	2005	2002-05	
Capacity	5,100	6,000	6,000	10,000	
Sports Uses	Football, T&F	Football, Soccer, Lacrosse	Football, Soccer, T&F	Football, T&F	
Annual Events	50	65	300	60	
	Municipal Stadium	Howard Wood Field	Lion Stadium	Braly Municipal Stadium	Average
Location	Daytona Beach, FL	Sioux Falls, SD	Ennis, TX	Florence, AL	
Market Population	481,400	203,400	130,200	141,100	215,900
Year Opened	1988	1958	2001	1950	
Year Renovated	n/a	2003-05	n/a	1998	
Capacity	10,000	10,000	10,000	14,215	8,900
Sports Uses	Football, Soccer, Motorsports	Football, Soccer, T&F	Football, Soccer, T&F	Football	
Annual Events	80	100	25	60	100

As shown in the exhibit, the average comparable facility has a capacity of approximately 8,900 and hosts approximately 100 events per year. Excluding Civic Field, which hosts a number of sports practices on an annual basis, the remaining stadiums included in the analysis host an average of 63 events per year. Each comparable stadium hosts football games, with other sports utilization consisting of sports such as soccer, track and field, lacrosse and motor sports.

While comparisons with the facilities described within this section may be useful, the actual physical characteristics and ultimate operational philosophy adopted by the proposed new or renovated stadium will depend on the specific needs and preferences of the City and other relevant constituencies. For example, factors such as the desire to emphasize community events to benefit the region's population as a whole will need to be weighed against the need to generate acceptable revenue levels. In developing a building program and utilization plan for the stadium project, the City may look to these comparable stadiums as general benchmarks, but ultimately, must make its own decisions on how to best utilize the stadium.

3.0 Market Demand Analysis

The purpose of this section is to estimate potential event levels and attendance at a renovated Victory Stadium or a new stadium in Roanoke. For purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that a renovated Victory Stadium would have a seating capacity of approximately 18,000 seats, while a new stadium could have a capacity of 5,000, 10,000 or 15,000 seats. A variety of factors have been analyzed in order to gauge the ability of a new or renovated stadium to attract various events including, but not limited to:

- Historical Victory Stadium event and attendance levels;
- Event levels of comparable stadiums discussed in Section 2.0; and,
- Interviews with various potential stadium users.

The interviews with potential users were conducted to obtain opinions on the stadium development options being considered and to gauge interest in utilizing the stadium. These conversations provided an understanding of the Roanoke market's current ability to attract various types of events, and how the market's attractiveness could be impacted by the presence of a renovated or new stadium.

The remainder of this section summarizes the analyses conducted to develop event and attendance assumptions for each potential stadium scenario, presented by event type.

High School Football

Victory Stadium currently serves as the home field of the William Fleming High School and Patrick Henry High School football programs. Each school typically plays five regular season home games at the Stadium each fall, with attendance typically averaging approximately 1,000 to 1,500 spectators per game.

Because neither school has an on-campus stadium capable of hosting football games, it is assumed that both schools would continue to utilize a renovated Victory Stadium or a new stadium for their home games, regardless of the capacity of the stadium. However, due to the relatively modest attendance levels, a smaller stadium may be best suited to hosting these events, as such a stadium would provide a more intimate atmosphere and result in fewer empty seats for football games. A smaller stadium could also help reduce the costs associated with operating the stadium for high school football games.

Based on conversations with representatives of schools within the City of Roanoke and Roanoke County, there does not appear to be substantial demand to hold events at a new or renovated Victory Stadium beyond the games currently played at the Stadium by William Fleming and Patrick Henry High Schools. Schools generally stated a preference to play home games at on-campus stadiums when possible. Therefore, it is possible that William Fleming and/or Patrick Henry High School could elect to remove their games from Victory Stadium if appropriate facilities are built on their respective campuses.

For purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that a new or renovated stadium in Roanoke could host approximately 10 regular season high school football games per season, with average attendance of approximately 2,000 per game, regardless of stadium capacity. These estimates do not include postseason games, which will be discussed later in this section.

Summary of High School Football Assumptions					
	Victory Stadium 2004 Events	18,000 Seats	15,000 Seats	10,000 Seats	5,000 Seats
Annual Events	11	10	10	10	10
Attendance:					
Average	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Annual	11,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000

High School Soccer

In addition to football games, Victory Stadium has also hosted high school soccer games in past years, including seven games in 2004. However, the Stadium did not host any high school soccer games in 2005. Attendance for high school soccer events at the stadium has averaged approximately 200 per game. As with regular season high school football, a smaller stadium may be best suited to hosting high school soccer events due to the relatively low attendance levels typically associated with soccer games.

For purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that the improved amenities associated with a new or renovated stadium could cause William Fleming and Patrick Henry High Schools could hold the majority of their varsity boys and girls soccer games at the stadium. Specifically, it is assumed that the stadium could host approximately 30 regular season high school soccer games per season, excluding potential postseason games. Attendance at these games is estimated to average approximately 300 per game.

Summary of High School Soccer Assumptions					
	Victory Stadium 2004 Events	18,000 Seats	15,000 Seats	10,000 Seats	5,000 Seats
Annual Events	7	30	30	30	30
Attendance:					
Average	200	300	300	300	300
Annual	1,400	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000

High School Lacrosse

Patrick Henry High School is the only school within the City of Roanoke that fields lacrosse teams. Two high school lacrosse games were held at Victory Stadium in 2004, but none were held at the stadium in 2005. For purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that Patrick Henry High School would continue to play its lacrosse games at locations other than a new or renovated Victory Stadium. Therefore, no regular season high school lacrosse games are included in the event estimates developed for this analysis. However, postseason lacrosse could potentially be held at the stadium, as discussed below.

Postseason High School Sports

Along with the regular season high school sports discussed previously, Victory Stadium has historically hosted a number of postseason high school events. According to representatives of the Virginia High School League (VHSL), the early rounds of postseason tournaments are typically held at the home stadiums of participating schools. Therefore, the extent to which a new or renovated stadium in Roanoke would host early round postseason football, soccer or lacrosse postseason events would likely depend on William Fleming, Patrick Henry or another local school playing host to the game, and choosing to hold the game at the stadium. As a result, playoff utilization could fluctuate from year to year, depending on the ability of local teams to qualify to host postseason play.

The final rounds of postseason tournaments are typically predetermined by the VHSL. All of the spring sports championships, including soccer, lacrosse, baseball and softball, are held in the same city over the same time period, resulting in a spring sports "festival". Currently, Radford University in Radford hosts the Class A and AA spring sports festival, while Christopher Newport University in Newport News hosts the Class AAA event.

The ability of a new or renovated stadium to host soccer or lacrosse championships would depend on Roanoke's ability to prepare a bid to host all of the aforementioned spring sports. The soccer championship, which consists of the semifinal and final rounds, requires a stadium capacity of 1,000 to 1,500, with a field measuring at least 110 yards by 65 yards. There is no minimum capacity requirement for the lacrosse championship.

Football championship games could represent an additional source of postseason utilization for the proposed new or renovated stadium. The VHSL currently conducts championships in six classes. The following table presents the current locations of the final for each division, as well as the minimum required seating capacity to host the event as determined by the VHSL.

VHSL Football Championship Game Overview			
Division	Current Host	Location	Minimum Stadium Capacity
Division 1	James Madison University	Harrisonburg	6,000
Division 2	James Madison University	Harrisonburg	5,000
Division 3	Liberty University	Lynchburg	4,000
Division 4	Liberty University	Lynchburg	3,500
Division 5	University of Richmond	Richmond	2,000
Division 6	University of Richmond	Richmond	1,500

As shown, the six football championship games are currently divided between three host Universities, each of which hosts two championships on the same day. VHSL representatives indicated that they have been pleased with each of the current hosts, but Roanoke could make a proposal to the VHSL Executive Committee to host a football championship event if it had an appropriate stadium.

The current locations are based primarily on the proximity of each University to the greatest concentration of schools within each division. Based on conversations with VHSL representatives, the Division 3 and 4 championships would represent the best geographic fit for Roanoke. While the official capacity requirements to host these events are 3,500 and 4,000, respectively, VHSL representatives indicated that attendance has often reached 8,000 to 9,000 in recent years. Therefore, a stadium with a capacity of 10,000 would likely be adequate in order for Roanoke to attract these events.

In addition to stadium capacity, other factors considered by the VHSL when considering sites for football championship events include:

- Safety of the facility and playing surface;
- Locker room access and space;
- Financial potential;
- Motel and restaurant accommodations;
- Parking availability;
- Traffic ingress/egress; and,
- Facilities for television filming.

While specific guidelines for these factors have not been developed, the stadium and market must be adequate in each area in order to attract consideration for football championship games.

For purposes of this analysis, it is estimated that a new or renovated stadium in Roanoke could host approximately two postseason events in a typical year. These games are assumed to represent games hosted by local high schools who earn the right to host postseason events. While a stadium with a capacity of at least 10,000 seats could potentially attract two divisions of State football championship games, there is no guarantee that the presence of a new or renovated stadium would attract these events. Therefore, they have not been included in the estimates developed herein.

Summary of High School Postseason Assumptions					
	Victory Stadium 2004 Events	18,000 Seats	15,000 Seats	10,000 Seats	5,000 Seats
Annual Events	3	2	2	2	2
Attendance:					
Average	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Annual	6,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Note: Estimates exclude potential State tournament games.					

College Sports

Victory Stadium has hosted a variety of collegiate sports events in past years, most notably the annual football game between Virginia Tech and the Virginia Military Institute, which was held at the stadium for several decades until 1971. Currently, the Stadium hosts the annual Western Virginia Education Classic, which features two regional collegiate teams and raises funds to help address school dropout problems among area youth. The Classic typically draws approximately 6,000 fans per year.

In order to assess interest in bringing additional collegiate sports events to a new or renovated stadium in Roanoke, interviews were conducted with representatives of the NCAA, as well as several regional colleges, universities and collegiate athletic conferences. Representatives of area colleges and universities generally indicated limited interest in utilizing a stadium in Roanoke, as they typically prefer to host events at on-campus facilities, allowing them to limit travel costs and enjoy a home field advantage. In order to induce these programs to relocate a home game to a stadium in Roanoke, the City would likely need to provide financial guarantees to the school to offset the costs associated with a neutral field game. Such financial incentives would negatively impact the Stadium's financial bottom line, and would need to be weighed against the revenue generating potential of the events.

In the case of major NCAA Division I programs such as Virginia Tech and the University of Virginia, the financial incentives required to lure them to Roanoke would likely be prohibitive, as these universities generate substantial game day revenues from their on-campus stadiums. Division II and III programs would likely require more modest guarantees to cover travel costs. However, these games would lack the prestige, attendance levels and economic impact that could be generated by a Division I game.

In terms of postseason collegiate games, many of the collegiate athletic conferences with member institutions in the Roanoke region play at the NCAA Division II or Division III levels. Conferences at these levels typically do not play a football championship game, relying solely on regular season results to determine a conference champion. Lower division conference championship events in sports such as soccer and lacrosse are typically held at on-campus locations and are hosted by the top seeded university or are determined on an annual rotation among schools within the conference. Utilizing on-campus facilities decreases the travel costs associated with the championship events and helps draw fans to events that would otherwise have limited regional interest. Therefore, it is unlikely that the majority of regional conferences would utilize a stadium in Roanoke for postseason events.

While minor conferences indicated little interest in utilizing the proposed new or renovated stadium, representatives of the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC), a major NCAA Division I conference whose members include Virginia Tech and the University of Virginia, indicated that a new or renovated stadium in Roanoke could potentially host the conference's postseason soccer and/or lacrosse championships.

The ACC men's and women's soccer championships will be held at the SAS Soccer Park in Cary, North Carolina for the third consecutive year in 2006. M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore hosted the men's and women's lacrosse championships in 2005 and will host them again in 2006. ACC representatives indicated that both championships will be up for bid for future years. While a stadium capacity of 10,000 may be adequate to host these events, ACC officials prefer a facility with a capacity of at least 12,000. In addition to capacity, the Conference considers several additional factors when considering bids to host championship events, including:

- Spectator parking;
- Quality of playing surface;
- Ticket booths, concessions areas, restrooms and other such fan accommodations;
- Areas for press, coaches, officials, medical personnel and other staff;
- Two to four quality locker rooms;
- Videoboard, scoreboard and public address system;
- Hospitality areas;
- Adequate lighting for televised events; and,
- Other such amenities.

In addition to conference tournaments, NCAA championships could represent opportunities to draw major events to a new or renovated stadium in Roanoke. It is assumed that the stadium would be capable of hosting football, soccer and lacrosse events. The following is a summary of the current circumstances surrounding NCAA championships in these events.

Football

The NCAA currently does not conduct a championship tournament or game at the Division I-A level. Postseason games consist of bowl games held at a number of markets throughout the country. Based on the current markets and facilities hosting bowl games, it is unlikely that a stadium with a capacity of 18,000 or less in Roanoke would be capable of hosting a Division I-A bowl game.

Football championship games are played at the NCAA Division I-AA, Division II and Division III levels. The Division I-AA championship game is currently held at the 20,000-seat Carter Stadium in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where it has been played since 1997 and is contracted to remain through 2007. The Division II championship has been held at the 14,215-seat Braly Municipal Stadium in Florence, Alabama each year since 1986 and is contracted to continue to be held in Florence through 2009. The Division III game is played at the 7,136-seat Salem Stadium in Salem, Virginia. The 2005 championship will be the 13th straight played in Salem.

While the Division I-AA, II and III football championships are currently held at the same sites each year, the NCAA periodically allows other markets to present bids to host the event in future years. In order to attract an NCAA football championship event to a new or renovated stadium in Roanoke, a bid would need to be prepared in order to induce the NCAA to relocate one of the games from its existing market. The NCAA allows only schools and conferences to submit bids for championship events. Therefore, the City would need to partner with an area school or conference to prepare a bid to submit to the site selection committee for a particular event.

According to NCAA guidelines, a 15,000-seat stadium would be sufficient to host the Division I-AA football championship game, while a stadium with a capacity of at least 8,000 seats would likely be required to attract the Division II or III championship game.

In addition to stadium capacity, other key characteristics considered by the championship site selection committee include geographic location, attendance potential, historical support for college football in the region, adequate hotel rooms, convenient practice facilities and the support of the local community.

Soccer

The NCAA selects separate sites for its Division I men's and women's soccer championships, while the men's and women's championship events are held at shared sites at the Division II and III levels. Each championship event consists of the semi-final and final rounds at a predetermined site. In recent years, soccer championship events have been held only at soccer-exclusive stadiums. The NCAA avoids playing events at shared football/soccer facilities, as field conditions are often less than optimal at shared facilities. In order to attract a soccer championship event, the stadium would likely need to feature an artificial playing surface, or the City would likely need to guarantee that no football games would be held on the field for a specified period of time prior to the championship, potentially three weeks or longer.

The Division I men's and women's championships require minimum seating capacities of 8,000 to 10,000. NCAA representatives indicated that a 5,000-seat stadium would be adequate to host Division II or III championships. Additional stadium requirements include four locker rooms, adequate accommodations for television broadcasting and other media, enclosed rooms for media interviews and press conferences and adequate lighting.

Lacrosse

The NCAA has historically combined its Division I, II and III men's lacrosse championships into a single weekend-long event, and plans to continue to do so in future years. These events are currently held exclusively at large NFL stadiums in major markets, and are unlikely to be held at a smaller stadium in a market such as Roanoke.

The three divisions of women's lacrosse championships are each held at separate locations, and are rotated to different locations each year. In 2006, the Division I championship will be held at the 10,400-seat Nickerson Stadium in Boston, the Division II championship will be played at the 3,000-seat stadium at the Benedictine University Sports Complex in Lisle, Illinois, and the Division III championship will be held at the 1,000-seat DeBaun Field in Hoboken, New Jersey.

It is likely that a 5,000-seat stadium would be adequate to host Division II or III championship games, while a 10,000-seat facility may be required to attract the Division I game. As with the other sports discussed herein, the ability of a new or renovated stadium in Roanoke to host a women's lacrosse championship would depend on the City's ability to partner with a regional university or conference to prepare a bid to hold the event in Roanoke.

For purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that the Western Virginia Education Classic would continue to be held at a new or renovated Victory Stadium. It is assumed that additional collegiate sports utilization would be limited. If the City is aggressive in providing guarantees to regional universities to play home games at the stadium, or in developing additional special events similar to the Western Virginia Education Classic, the number of collegiate athletic events held at the stadium could increase. In addition, while the stadium could potentially host ACC and/or NCAA championship events in various sports, Roanoke would need to develop a competitive bid package to attract such events. For purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that a new or renovated stadium could attract one additional collegiate sporting event per year on an ongoing basis. While the City may be able to attract a conference or NCAA championship event, due to the uncertainty of the bid process and lack of recurrence, such events have not been included in the event estimates presented herein.

Summary of Collegiate Sports Assumptions					
	Victory Stadium 2004 Events	18,000 Seats	15,000 Seats	10,000 Seats	5,000 Seats
Annual Events	1	2	2	2	2
Attendance:					
Average	8,000	15,000	12,000	8,000	5,000
Annual	8,000	30,000	24,000	16,000	10,000
Note: Estimates exclude potential NCAA and regional conference postseason/championship games.					

Other Sports

In addition to the high school and collegiate sporting events discussed above, a new or renovated stadium could potentially attract other amateur, semi-professional or even professional sports events. Such events could include amateur youth soccer or lacrosse tournaments as well as semi-professional or professional soccer, football or lacrosse leagues and teams.

Based on discussions with amateur athletic event organizers, the primary deciding factor for selecting a particular market for tournaments is the availability of an adequate number of fields to accommodate a potentially large tournament field. Ideally, these fields will be centrally located with easy access to hotels and other support services. While a stadium located amongst a large number of fields may offer an attractive venue for tournament finals, most potential amateur sports event organizers indicated that a stadium is not needed. Therefore, no usage from such events has been assumed for the new or renovated stadium at this point.

In addition to amateur sports events, there are several semi-professional or professional football, lacrosse and soccer organizations that could potentially utilize the stadium for a tenant franchise. While such usage may be beneficial to the facility in terms of utilization as a community asset, the financial impact on the stadium's operations from such events may actually result in additional operating losses. For purposes of this analysis, no semi-professional or professional sports tenant has been assumed for the new or renovated stadium.

Concerts

Concerts could represent an additional source of utilization for a renovated Victory Stadium or a new stadium in Roanoke. Because football stadiums are not typically designed with a focus on concerts, they often offer relatively poor configurations and acoustics for concerts. In addition, the costs associated with stadium concerts are typically high due to the need to construct a stage from the ground up. However, design features such as a permanent concert stage or other such amenities could facilitate the production of concerts in the facility and make it a more attractive venue for concert promoters.

Victory Stadium last hosted a concert in 2004, when two concerts were held at the venue. Based on conversations with local concert promoters, concert industry trends and other such information, it is estimated that a new or renovated stadium in Roanoke could potentially host approximately three concerts annually. For purposes of this analysis, average concert attendance is estimated to range from approximately 3,500 to 10,000 per performance depending on the capacity of the stadium.

Summary of Concert Assumptions					
	Victory Stadium 2004 Events	18,000 Seats	15,000 Seats	10,000 Seats	5,000 Seats
Annual Events	2	3	3	3	3
Attendance:					
Average	5,000	10,000	7,500	5,000	3,500
Annual	10,000	30,000	22,500	15,000	10,500

Other Events

In addition to athletic events and concerts, Victory Stadium has occasionally hosted other events such as festivals and community events. Based on historical Stadium event levels, it is assumed that a new or renovated stadium in Roanoke could host approximately 15 miscellaneous events on an annual basis, with attendance approximating 500 per event. These could include a variety of festivals, flea markets, auto shows or other similar events.

Summary of Other Event Assumptions					
	Victory Stadium 2004 Events	18,000 Seats	15,000 Seats	10,000 Seats	5,000 Seats
Annual Events	11	15	15	15	15
Attendance:					
Average	500	500	500	500	500
Annual	5,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500

Summary

Based on the market analysis performed in this section, estimates of event activity for a new or renovated stadium in Roanoke have been developed. The following exhibit presents estimated event levels at the proposed stadium for each potential development option.

Estimated Ticketed Events and Attendance New or Renovated Victory Stadium				
Event Type	18,000 Seats	15,000 Seats	10,000 Seats	5,000 Seats
Annual Events				
High School Football	10	10	10	10
High School Soccer	30	30	30	30
High School Postseason	2	2	2	2
College Sports	2	2	2	2
Concerts	3	3	3	3
Other Events	15	15	15	15
Total Annual Events	62	62	62	62

Average Attendance				
High School Football	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
High School Soccer	300	300	300	300
High School Postseason	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
College Sports	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Concerts	10,000	7,500	5,000	3,500
Other Events	500	500	500	500
Annual Attendance				
High School Football	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
High School Soccer	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000
High School Postseason	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
College Sports	30,000	22,500	15,000	10,000
Concerts	30,000	22,500	15,000	10,500
Other Events	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500
Total Annual Events	101,500	88,000	72,500	62,000

As shown, it is estimated that event levels are not likely to vary significantly based on variations in stadium capacity due to the relatively low number of events that would require a larger stadium. Specifically, it is estimated that the stadium could host approximately 62 events per year regardless of stadium capacity. Attendance at these events is estimated to range from 62,000 per year at a 5,000 seat stadium to 101,500 per year for a stadium with 18,000 seats.

Based on this analysis, it appears that a stadium with a capacity of 5,000 seats would be sufficient to capture the majority of events that would potentially be held at the stadium. However, building a stadium with only 5,000 seats would likely preclude the facility from consideration for larger events such as VHSL football championships, ACC or NCAA tournament or championships events and other major events. Based on this analysis, it appears that a stadium with a capacity of approximately 10,000 seats would likely be sufficient to enable the City to offer an appropriate facility for these events. A larger stadium may not necessarily place the City in a significantly better position to be able to compete for these events. Assuming a 10,000-seat stadium would have the ability to add temporary seating as demand dictated, this capacity appears to be adequate to accommodate the vast majority of the potential users of the facility.

In order to determine the most appropriate capacity, the City should undertake a detailed cost-benefit analysis that will address not only the incremental revenues that could be generated by the stadium with these additional events, but also the added revenues

that could be generated throughout the community due to visitor spending related to these events. These impacts should be compared to the incremental cost to construct and operate a larger new or renovated stadium to determine the most cost effective stadium size.

4.0 Preliminary Financial Analysis

The intent of this section is to provide a preliminary estimate of the potential operating results of a new or renovated stadium in. Because facility design, configuration and cost estimates for the proposed stadium renovation or development have not yet been completed, the assumptions used in this analysis are based on the results of the market analysis, industry trends, knowledge of the marketplace and financial results from comparable stadiums. Using this information, an evaluation of the potential operating results has been developed under the range of event and attendance levels as discussed in the previous section.

This presentation is designed to assist in estimating the financial operations of the proposed stadium development options being considered. Therefore, this analysis may not be useful for any other purpose. The assumptions disclosed herein are not all inclusive, but are those deemed significant to the operations of the facility. However, there will be differences between estimated and actual results, due to the fact that events and circumstances frequently do not occur as expected, and these differences may be material. As is the case in all studies of this type, the estimated results are based on competent and efficient facility management and assume that no significant changes in the various event markets will occur beyond those set forth in this report. The remainder of this section presents the financial and economic impact analyses under the following components:

- Operating Revenues,
- Operating Expenses, and
- Estimated Financial Results.

Operating Revenues

A new or renovated stadium will likely derive revenues through rental revenue, concessions sales, merchandise sales, parking fees, advertising and other such revenue streams. This section summarizes the estimates for each potential revenue source, identifying revenues that could be derived from stadium events. The estimates presented herein relate to the event and attendance assumptions developed in the previous section.

Rental Revenue

Rental revenues often make up a significant portion of a facility's operating cash flows. Typically, stadium rental rates consist of a flat rental fee. For certain ticketed events such as concerts, a percentage of gate receipts generated by the event may be collected rather than applying a flat fee. For purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that organizers of all events other than concerts would pay a flat rental fee, and would retain all ticket revenue from their respective events. It is assumed that concert promoters would be assessed a rental fee equal to the greater of a flat rate, depending on stadium capacity, or 10 per cent of gross gate receipts. The rental rates assumed in the estimates are based largely on rates charged at comparable stadiums. The following exhibit summarizes the assumptions used to estimate the annual rental revenue from all events held at the stadium under each development scenario.

Estimated Stadium Rental Revenue

18,000 Seats						
Event Type	Annual Events	Average Attendance	Average Ticket Price	Rental Rate Flat Fee	Rental Rate % of Gate	Annual Rental Revenue
HS Football	10	2,000	\$ 5.00	\$ 500.00	n/a	\$ 5,000.00
HS Soccer	30	300	\$ 5.00	\$ 250.00	n/a	\$ 7,500.00
Postseason HS	2	2,500	\$ 8.00	\$1,000.00	n/a	\$ 2,000.00
College Sports	2	15,000	\$20.00	\$2,000.00	n/a	\$ 4,000.00
Concerts	3	10,000	\$30.00	\$5,000.00	10%	\$90,000.00
Other Events	15	500	\$ 8.00	\$1,000.00	n/a	\$15,000.00
Annual Totals						\$123,500.00

15,000 Seats						
Event Type	Annual Events	Average Attendance	Average Ticket Price	Rental Rate Flat Fee	Rental Rate % of Gate	Annual Rental Revenue
HS Football	10	2,000	\$ 5.00	\$ 500.00	n/a	\$ 5,000.00
HS Soccer	30	300	\$ 5.00	\$ 250.00	n/a	\$ 7,500.00
Postseason HS	2	2,500	\$ 8.00	\$1,000.00	n/a	\$ 2,000.00
College Sports	2	12,000	\$15.00	\$1,900.00	n/a	\$ 3,800.00
Concerts	3	7,500	\$30.00	\$4,500.00	10%	\$67,500.00
Other Events	15	500	\$ 7.00	\$1,000.00	n/a	\$15,000.00
Annual Totals						\$100,800.00

10,000 Seats						
Event Type	Annual Events	Average Attendance	Average Ticket Price	Rental Rate Flat Fee	Rental Rate % of Gate	Annual Rental Revenue
HS Football	10	2,000	\$ 5.00	\$ 500.00	n/a	\$ 5,000.00
HS Soccer	30	300	\$ 5.00	\$ 250.00	n/a	\$ 7,500.00
Postseason HS	2	2,500	\$ 8.00	\$1,000.00	n/a	\$ 2,000.00
College Sports	2	8,000	\$10.00	\$1,700.00	n/a	\$ 3,400.00
Concerts	3	5,000	\$30.00	\$4,000.00	10%	\$45,000.00
Other Events	15	500	\$ 6.00	\$1,000.00	n/a	\$15,000.00
Annual Totals						\$77,900.00

5,000 Seats						
Event Type	Annual Events	Average Attendance	Average Ticket Price	Rental Rate Flat Fee	Rental Rate % of Gate	Annual Rental Revenue
HS Football	10	2,000	\$ 5.00	\$ 500.00	n/a	\$ 5,000.00
HS Soccer	30	300	\$ 5.00	\$ 250.00	n/a	\$ 7,500.00
Postseason HS	2	2,500	\$ 8.00	\$1,000.00	n/a	\$ 2,000.00
College Sports	2	5,000	\$10.00	\$1,500.00	n/a	\$ 3,000.00
Concerts	3	3,500	\$30.00	\$3,500.00	10%	\$31,500.00
Other Events	15	500	\$ 5.00	\$1,000.00	n/a	\$15,000.00
Annual Totals						\$64,000.00

As shown, rental revenue is estimated to range from approximately \$124,000.00 per year at an 18,000-seat renovated Victory Stadium to approximately \$64,000.00 per year assuming a new 5,000-seat stadium.

Concessions

Concessions revenue consists of sales of various food and beverage items at concession stands throughout the stadium. Revenue assumptions are based on estimated event and attendance levels, concession spending at comparable facilities and industry trends.

Based on industry trends, the profit margin on concessions generally approximates 40 per cent of gross sales, with remaining percentage being allocated to the vendor to cover the cost of labor and merchandise. The profit generated by concessions and catering is often shared between stadium management and event organizers. The percentage of concession profits allocated to event organizers can often be a key negotiating point when developing rental agreements suitable for both the stadium and the tenant or organizer.

For purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that the stadium would retain an average of 50 per cent of profits from the sales of concessions, with the remaining 50 per cent allocated to the event organizer. The following table summarizes the assumptions used to estimate annual concessions revenues resulting from each stadium development option.

Estimated Food & Beverage Revenue

18,000 Seats					
Event Type	Annual Attendance	Per Capita Spending	Gross Revenue	Stadium Share of Gross	Net Revenue
High School Football	20,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 60,500.00	20%	\$ 12,000.00
High School Soccer	9,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 27,250.00	20%	\$ 5,400.00
Postseason HS	5,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 15,000.00	20%	\$ 3,000.00
College Sports	30,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 90,000.00	20%	\$ 18,000.00
Concerts	30,000	\$ 6.00	\$180,000.00	20%	\$ 36,000.00
Other Events	7,500	\$ 2.00	\$ 15,000.00	20%	\$ 3,000.00
Totals	101,500		\$387,000.00		\$ 77,400.00

15,000 Seats					
Event Type	Annual Attendance	Per Capita Spending	Gross Revenue	Stadium Share of Gross	Net Revenue
High School Football	20,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 60,000.00	20%	\$ 12,000.00
High School Soccer	9,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 27,000.00	20%	\$ 5,400.00
Postseason HS	5,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 15,000.00	20%	\$ 3,000.00
College Sports	24,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 72,000.00	20%	\$ 14,400.00
Concerts	22,500	\$ 6.00	\$135,000.00	20%	\$ 27,000.00
Other Events	7,500	\$ 2.00	\$ 15,000.00	20%	\$ 3,000.00
Totals	88,000		\$324,000.00		\$64,800.00

10,000 Seats					
Event Type	Annual Attendance	Per Capita Spending	Gross Revenue	Stadium Share of Gross	Net Revenue
High School Football	20,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 60,000.00	20%	\$ 12,000.00
High School Soccer	9,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 27,000.00	20%	\$ 5,400.00
Postseason HS	5,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 15,000.00	20%	\$ 3,000.00
College Sports	16,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 48,000.00	20%	\$ 9,600.00
Concerts	15,000	\$ 6.00	\$ 90,000.00	20%	\$ 18,000.00
Other Events	7,500	\$ 2.00	\$ 15,000.00	20%	\$ 3,000.00
Totals	72,500		\$255,000.00		\$ 51,000.00

5,000 Seats					
Event Type	Annual Attendance	Per Capita Spending	Gross Revenue	Stadium Share of Gross	Net Revenue
High School Football	20,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 60,000.00	20%	\$ 12,000.00
High School Soccer	9,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 27,000.00	20%	\$ 5,400.00
Postseason HS	5,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 15,000.00	20%	\$ 3,000.00
College Sports	10,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 30,000.00	20%	\$ 6,000.00
Concerts	10,500	\$ 6.00	\$ 63,000.00	20%	\$ 12,600.00
Other Events	7,500	\$ 2.00	\$ 15,000.00	20%	\$ 3,000.00
Totals	62,000		\$210,000.00		\$42,000.00

Concessions revenue is estimated to range from a high of approximately \$77,000.00 at an 18,000-seat stadium to a low of \$42,000.00 assuming a 5,000-seat facility.

Merchandise Sales

Merchandise sales consist of clothing, souvenirs, programs and other miscellaneous items sold during events at the stadium. It is assumed that the facility users would be responsible for merchandise sales and would retain the majority of revenues generated. However, for concerts and other potential outside events, it is assumed that a new or renovated stadium may be able to negotiate a revenue sharing agreement. For purposes of this analysis, it is estimated that net revenues from merchandise sales could range from \$5,000.00 in an 18,000-seat stadium to \$2,000.00 in a 5,000-seat facility.

Parking Revenue

There are currently approximately 700 parking spaces on the Victory Stadium grounds. Because each development scenario assumes that a new or renovated stadium would exist on the site of the current Stadium it is assumed that the same number of spaces would continue to be available. Based on an estimated 90 per cent of event attendees driving to attend the event with an average of 3.5 persons per car and an 80 per cent profit margin, the following table summarizes the parking revenue that could be generated by events at a new or renovated stadium. It is important to note that these revenues reflect the utilization of only the 700 spaces located on the Victory Stadium grounds. For events requiring additional parking, it is assumed that patrons would park off-site and that any revenues generated there from would be allocated to other entities.

Estimated Parking Revenue

18,000 Seats					
Event Type	Annual Attendance	Per Capita Spending	Gross Revenue	Stadium Share of Gross	Net Revenue
High School Football	514	\$ 2.00	\$10,286.00	80%	\$ 8,229.00
High School Soccer	77	\$ 2.00	\$ 4,629.00	80%	\$ 3,703.00
Postseason HS	643	\$ 2.00	\$ 2,571.00	80%	\$ 2,057.00
College Sports	3,857	\$ 2.00	\$ 2,800.00	80%	\$ 2,240.00
Concerts	2,571	\$ 2.00	\$ 4,200.00	80%	\$ 3,360.00
Other Events	129	\$ 2.00	\$ 3,857.00	80%	\$ 3,086.00
Totals			\$28,343.00		\$ 22,674.00

15,000 Seats					
Event Type	Annual Attendance	Per Capita Spending	Gross Revenue	Stadium Share of Gross	Net Revenue
High School Football	514	\$ 2.00	\$ 10,000.00	80%	\$ 8,229.00
High School Soccer	77	\$ 2.00	\$ 4,629.00	80%	\$ 3,703.00
Postseason HS	643	\$ 2.00	\$ 2,571.00	80%	\$ 2,057.00
College Sports	2,057	\$ 2.00	\$ 2,800.00	80%	\$ 2,240.00
Concerts	1,286	\$ 2.00	\$ 4,200.00	80%	\$ 3,360.00
Other Events	129	\$ 2.00	\$ 3,857.00	80%	\$ 3,086.00
Totals			\$28,343.00		\$22,674.00

10,000 Seats					
Event Type	Annual Attendance	Per Capita Spending	Gross Revenue	Stadium Share of Gross	Net Revenue
High School Football	514	\$ 2.00	\$ 10,286.00	80%	\$ 12,000.00
High School Soccer	77	\$ 2.00	\$ 4,629.00	80%	\$ 5,400.00
Postseason HS	643	\$ 2.00	\$ 2,571.00	80%	\$ 3,000.00
College Sports	1,286	\$ 2.00	\$ 2,800.00	80%	\$ 9,600.00
Concerts	900	\$ 2.00	\$ 4,200.00	80%	\$ 18,000.00
Other Events	129	\$ 2.00	\$ 3,857.00	80%	\$ 3,000.00
Totals			\$28,343.00		\$ 22,674.00

5,000 Seats					
Event Type	Annual Attendance	Per Capita Spending	Gross Revenue	Stadium Share of Gross	Net Revenue
High School Football	514	\$ 2.00	\$ 10,286.00	80%	\$ 8,229.00
High School Soccer	77	\$ 2.00	\$ 4,629.00	80%	\$ 3,703.00
Postseason HS	643	\$ 2.00	\$ 2,571.00	80%	\$ 2,057.00
College Sports	1,286	\$ 2.00	\$ 2,800.00	80%	\$ 2,240.00
Concerts	900	\$ 2.00	\$ 4,200.00	80%	\$ 3,360.00
Other Events	129	\$ 2.00	\$ 3,857.00	80%	\$ 3,086.00
Totals			\$28,343.00		\$22,674.00

As shown in the table, parking revenue is estimated to total approximately \$23,000.00 per year regardless of stadium capacity. Because parking revenue is limited by the number of parking spaces available at the stadium, it is not estimated to fluctuate based on stadium capacity.

Advertising

Advertising at stadiums is typically generated from two sources: electronic displays and panel displays. Electronic displays are often located on scoreboards, outdoor marquees and interior fascia, and typically flash advertisements for a specified period of time. Panel displays can be found attached to scoreboards, outdoor marquees, concourses, interior fascia or a number of other locations within a stadium. Victory Stadium does not currently generate any advertising revenue. However, the physical design of a new or renovated stadium could provide additional opportunities for advertising signage and displays. Further, a new or refurbished facility could attract new advertisers who want to be associated with the improved stadium.

Ultimately, the revenue the stadium is able to generate for advertising will rely on factors such as the total estimated number of events and total attendance at the stadium, the number of televised events at the stadium, and the extent to which the City chooses to maximize advertising opportunities. The following table summarizes estimated annual advertising revenues for each stadium development scenario, based on factors such as advertising at comparable stadiums and the size and corporate inventory of the Roanoke market.

Estimated Advertising Revenue			
18,000 Seats	15,000 Seats	10,000 Seats	5,000 Seats
\$ 50,000	\$ 45,500	\$35,000	\$25,000

Operating Expenses

The following estimates represent the potential operating expenses at a new or renovated stadium in Roanoke, and are based on an analysis of operating expenses at comparable facilities. The assumptions made in this section are based on industry averages and results at comparable facilities.

Estimated Stadium Operating Expenses					
Expense Type	Historical Victory Stadium (1)	Renovated Stadium 18,000 Seats	New Stadium 15,000 Seats	New Stadium 10,000 Seats	New Stadium 5,000 Seats
Salaries, Wages & Benefits	\$ 116,000.00	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 122,000.00	\$ 110,000	\$ 99,000.00
Utilities	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 47,000.00	\$ 42,000	\$ 38,000.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 30,000	\$ 27,000.00
Materials and Supplies	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 17,000	\$ 15,000.00
Professional Services	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 17,000	\$ 15,000.00
Other	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 32,000.00	\$ 27,000	\$ 23,000.00
Totals	\$232,000.00	\$290,000.00	\$272,000.00	\$243,000	\$217,000.00
(1) Represents average annual operating expenses over the past four fiscal years, inflated to 2005 dollars. Note: Expenses in the table exclude any annual capital reserve fund contributions, the amount of which may vary depending on total renovation/construction project costs.					

As shown in the table, stadium operating expenses are estimated to range from approximately \$217,000.00 for a 5,000-seat stadium to \$290,000.00 per year assuming a stadium with a capacity of 18,000 seats. Salaries, wages and benefits are assumed to comprise the largest share of operating expenses, as is currently the case at Victory Stadium.

It should be noted that the expense estimates presented herein do not include debt service associated with the cost of the potential construction or renovation project. Further, no contribution to a capital reserve fund has been included in the expense estimates. Typically, facility owners and/or managers make annual contributions to a capital reserve fund, often in an amount equal to 0.5 per cent to 1.0 per cent of total project development costs. The amount of annual capital fund contributions made for a new or renovated stadium will likely depend on the cost of renovating or constructing the stadium.

Estimated Financial Results

The total revenues and expenses estimated in this section are summarized in the following exhibit.

New/Renovated Victory Stadium Estimated Revenues and Expenses					
	Current Stadium (1)	18,000 Seats	15,000 Seats	10,000 Seats	5,000 Seats
Rent		\$ 124,000.00	\$ 101,000.00	\$ 78,000.00	\$ 64,000.00
Food and Beverage		\$ 77,000.00	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 51,000.00	\$ 42,000.00
Parking		\$ 23,000.00	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 23,000.00
Novelties		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Advertising/Sponsorships		\$ 50,000.00	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Total Revenues	\$ 28,000.00	\$279,000.00	\$238,000.00	\$190,000.00	\$156,000.00

Salaries, Wages & Benefits	\$ 116,000.00	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 122,000.00	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 99,000.00
Utilities	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 47,000.00	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 38,000.00
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 27,000.00
Materials and Supplies	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Professional Services	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Other	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 32,000.00	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 23,000.00
Total Expenses	\$232,000.00	\$290,000.00	\$272,000.00	\$243,000.00	\$217,000.00

Net Operating Income/(Loss)	(\$204,000.00)	(\$11,000.00)	(\$34,000.00)	(\$53,000.00)	(\$61,000.00)
Capital Reserve	n/a	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Net Operating Income/(Loss) After Capital Reserve	(\$204,000.00)	(\$11,000.00)	(\$34,000.00)	(\$53,000.00)	(\$61,000.00)
(1) Represents the average annual financial performance of Victory Stadium over the past four fiscal years, stated in 2005 dollars.					
(2) The amount of annual capital reserve contributions will likely depend on the total project cost, which has yet to be determined.					

As shown in the exhibit, it is estimated that operations of a new or renovated stadium could result in net operating losses ranging from \$11,000.00 for an 18,000-seat stadium to \$61,000.00 for a 5,000-seat stadium. In comparison, Victory Stadium has sustained an average operating loss of approximately \$204,000.00 annually over the past four fiscal years. It should be noted that the estimates presented above do not include annual debt service payments to cover the cost of a renovation or construction project. The construction of a larger stadium is likely to result in higher annual debt service payments in comparison to the development of a smaller facility.

In summary, Mr. Parker stated that CSL International began with an analysis of comparable facilities, which were municipal stadiums that host a variety of high school football, soccer, and college football around the country to understand the dynamics of the financials, the types of events, and how events were marketed, etc. He further stated that their analysis involved a broad range of event utilizations ranging from about 25 event days similar to Lyons Stadium in Texas, up to 300 event days in Bellingham, Washington. He added that the bulk of the analysis was geared toward market demand in Roanoke, the historic utilization of Victory Stadium, and comparable facilities at those levels; a considerable amount of time was spent interviewing potential users, high schools, colleges, football conferences, the NCAA, as well as concert promoters and other event promoters to understand the type of facility where there is a demand. He made the following points:

- Currently, high school football is the primary user of Victory Stadium averaging approximately 1,000 – 1,500 seats per game.
- Roanoke's two high schools indicated a preference to have facilities constructed on their campuses and discontinue the use of Victory Stadium. For the CSL International analysis, it was assumed that the high schools would continue to play regular season games at Victory Stadium; averaging about five games a year per team, or about ten total regular season games per year.

- With a new stadium and a better experience for fans, it is hoped that attendance will increase from approximately 1,000 – 1,500 up to about 2,000 persons per game.
- Victory Stadium currently hosts a few soccer games per year and one or two lacrosse games a year, with low attendance levels, but with a new facility and the installation of artificial turf, Victory Stadium could be a prime facility for soccer and lacrosse.
- Championship games for high school football, soccer and lacrosse require various stadium scenarios, post-season high school opportunities exist, currently the majority of post-season games are held at the higher seed's home, opportunities may exist at the final rounds for Roanoke Valley localities to submit a joint competitive bid, although there is no guarantee, even with a new stadium, that Roanoke would be successful in booking the events.
- College sports may also be an opportunity, inasmuch as Roanoke currently hosts the Western Virginia Education Classic; there is limited interest in bringing neutral site games to Roanoke; the decision is usually based on travel expenses and gate receipts, certain guarantees will be required in addition to covering event and travel expenses, and such opportunities are limited at this point.
- Championship games also involve dollars, minimizing travel expenses, bringing all the teams to one market, and having three teams travel instead of four creates an impact on the programs. The ACC is a strong conference in this region at the Division I athletics level, the ACC requires large stadiums, factors considered by the ACC in bringing events to markets include quality parking, a top notch playing surface, adequate ticket booths, concessions, restrooms, fan amenities, adequate press space, locker room space, quality locker rooms and officials space, a video board and scoreboard, hospitality areas, meeting space for pre-game and post-game functions for team boosters, and adequate lighting as events are televised.
- NCAA football championship events at Division IAA , Division II and Division III may also be an opportunity; Division IAA has been played at Carter Stadium in Chattanooga, Tennessee, for several years periodically, and comes up for competitive bid and Division II would be a prime opportunity for the Roanoke area. Braly Municipal Stadium in Florence, Alabama, has expended funds to upgrade its stadium; the Stagg Bowl, Division III, is currently played

at the ball field in Salem, and in order to attract any of the above referenced collegiate events, the City would have to partner with the local college, university or an athletic conference to qualify for bringing the events to Roanoke. Division IAA football championships require at least 15,000 seats, for Division II and Division III, 8,000 seats are preferred; other factors that are considered relate to geographic location of the market, where Division II teams are currently playing, how far the teams will have to travel, the attendance potential of the market, the availability of adequate lodging within the immediate area and outside of the area, as well as the availability of practice facilities for both teams.

- There are limited opportunities in terms of the NCAA soccer championships; the NCAA has played in soccer specific stadiums, and more soccer specific stadiums are under construction, however, the main issue concerns the quality of turf. When games are played in a football stadium, soccer players prefer a quality turf facility, and providing artificial turf may mitigate the situation; Division I championships request at least 8,000 – 10,000 seats and Divisions II and III require at least 5,000 seats.
- The lacrosse championship is somewhat different at the Divisions I, II and III levels and are currently played in major NFL facilities, such as Lincoln Field in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Women's championships rotate and there may be an opportunity for the Roanoke Valley to submit a competitive bid.
- It is assumed that the Western Virginia Education Classic will continue to be held at Victory Stadium, one additional neutral site game could be brought to Roanoke; i.e.: an early or late season classic, or some other event that would guarantee revenue to the team and cover expenses. No championship events have been assumed because of the competitive bid situation; therefore, depending on capacities, Roanoke could bring two events to sell out with about 5,000 seats up to approximately 15,000 seats at the largest stadium capacity.
- Other sports opportunities exist, some of the venues that were studied host semi-professional football, and professional league soccer may be available; there may be opportunities to attract professional sports team, however, league economics require that all revenues generated go to the teams, so, in effect, revenue will not benefit the facility other than through added utilization. It would be necessary for the City to solicit a local ownership group to sponsor a team.

- Youth sports were considered such as regional tournaments, or AAU-type tournaments that generate visitors to the market. Initially, one might think that a new stadium would provide a prime opportunity to attract these types of events; however, the reality is that promoters do not care about new stadiums, or about having 5,000 seats or 10,000 seats, but instead they look for 20 or 30 fields in order to accommodate all events.
- CSL International interviewed concert promoters both locally and regionally. Victory Stadium has hosted some concerts in the past, such as the Dave Matthews Band which was successful, but required certain significant guarantees. In order to attract concerts, promoters require money and guarantees that they will be able to cover costs and generate as much revenue as possible.
- There is very little interest in stadium configuration. Football stadiums are somewhat unique and stadium seating is better situated for football games. The curved seating arrangement allows patrons to focus on the center field. With a new facility and new amenities, it was assumed that Roanoke would continue to host those events that have been held at Victory Stadium for the past several years, such as "Music for Americans" and other festival-related events. The City of Roanoke would do well if it hosts three of those types events per year, depending on the capacity and type of concert, ranging from 3,500 to 10,000 persons per event.
- In addition to festivals, Victory Stadium has acted as a home base for road races and other community events. The new stadium would afford an opportunity for other activities such as flea markets and car shows, using the stadium grounds to host the events
- It is estimated about 62 events per year could be held at Victory Stadium, ranging from 62,000 to 100,000 persons total. The Stadium could be operated as a business and as a part of an enterprise fund that would be actively marketed to attract new events.
- The financial analysis relies on the fact that Victory Stadium will be operated as a business and that the facility will control concessions; total revenues, historically, have been about \$28,000.00, however, it may be possible to generate between \$156,000.00 to \$279,000.00 in total revenues. Total expenses could be about \$217,000.00 on the low end, up to about \$290,000.00. There is no estimate for a capital reserve account at this time since costs are not known; generally, an estimate of about

one-half to one per cent of project costs on an annual basis would be set aside in order to have available funds for operations. Overall, Victory Stadium has operated on about a \$200,000.00 loss, but with active marketing and an active business approach, the City could reduce the deficit anywhere from \$11,000.00 to \$61,000.00. If concession revenues were given to local community groups and/or high schools, revenue would decrease significantly.

Mr. Parker advised that after all is said and done, the question in the minds of most people is, what size facility should be built. He stated that based on all of the information that was received, a 5,000-seat stadium will be the capacity that will accommodate approximately 90 per cent of the events that will utilize Victory Stadium; a 5,000-seat stadium may not allow the City of Roanoke to compete for certain other events; and temporary seats could be used to get the facility up to 7,000 or 8,000 seats, thus enabling the City to bid on certain championship events. He further stated that a 10,000-seat facility would position the market and provide the City with the ability to compete for other larger events; however, there is no guarantee that any of the events will come to Roanoke. He advised that whether or not the City of Roanoke should build a facility with added capacity and added cost, with no guarantee of attracting any of the above referenced events, is a decision that City Council will have to make. He noted that some events may not be recurring events; i.e.: they may occur one year and not again until five years later. He stated that the ability to add temporary capacity to either a 5,000 or a 10,000-seat facility would be a plus in attracting certain other events to the stadium.

In closing, Mr. Parker stated that the City of Roanoke has a unique situation with an existing stadium that has considerable capacity for other events.

Mr. Holleman reviewed a cost benefit analysis of incremental costs for other events that Victory Stadium may be able to attract, the amount of revenue that could be generated to the facility and to the community in terms of hotel rooms, tax revenue and other spending in the community.

Mr. Holleman advised that:

- Construction cost - Area square footage of space was multiplied by unit costs which provides the subcontractor's price for the sub-area of a particular unit; general conditions, overhead and profit for the contractor is added to that figure, and because there are numerous unanswered questions, a 15 per cent estimated contingency was included, providing a new subtotal, or bid price, that would be used in the marketplace for the bid. The figure does not represent the total project cost since other project costs, known as soft costs, will be added in

and will be different depending on whether the facility is a new or a renovated facility. There would be a construction contingency due to the potential of finding more things wrong in a renovation project than in a new construction project of five per cent for a renovation project and three per cent for a new project. Also involved are fees for architects and others, as well as direct costs for printing and travel expenses, in the range of ten per cent for a renovation project, and about eight per cent for a new project; and one per cent for the owner contingency. He called attention to the need to include a three per cent project contingency in the event of necessary additions and soft costs range between 19 and 23 per cent of the total bid price figure.

Mr. Holleman reviewed the following:

Purpose of the Victory Stadium Study Report prepared by Heery International, Inc.:

- Evaluate Existing Conditions
- Develop Five Options
- On Existing Site
- Comparative Analysis

Agenda:

- Flood Plain
- Existing Stadium Assessment
 - Loose Brick
 - Spalled Concrete Seats
 - Lacking Amenities
 - Poor Field and Track
 - Sound Structure on Deep Foundations
- Historic Tax Credit
 - Registered Historic Landmark
 - Preliminary indication from DHR is positive
 - 20% Federal and 25% State eligible
 - Everything within stadium footprint eligible
 - Soft cost associated with eligible cost are eligible
 - Net savings back to City estimated at 35%
 - Example:
 - If the eligible cost is \$10,000,000.00, the proceeds to the City are \$3,500,000.00

- Five Options
 1. Existing Stadium - Historic Rehabilitation (with Historic Tax Credit)
 2. Existing Stadium - General Renovation (without Tax Credit)
 3. New 5,000 Seat Stadium
 4. New 10,000 Seat Stadium
 5. New 15,000 Seat Stadium
- Program
 - Basic Program
 - Bench Seating
 - Toilets and Concessions for 8,000
 - Press Box
 - Support Space - Locker Rooms (11/15k)
 - Option Program
 - New Field
 - Architectural Façade
 - Site Aesthetics
 - Raised Support Space
- Budget Methodology

Area x Unit Costs	\$	
	Subtotal	
GC OHP	18%	
Estimating Contingency	15%	
Bid Price	Subtotal	
Soft Costs	Renovated	New
Construction Contingency	5%	3%
FF&E	3%	3%
Testing, Surveys, GEO	1%	1%
Owner Contingency	1%	1%
Project Contingency	3%	3%
Subtotal Soft Cost	23%	19%
Total Project Costs	Total \$\$	Total \$\$
*Escalation Mid-Construction December 2006		

Budget Comparison

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Items	Renovate 18,000 Tax Credit	Renovate 18,000 No Tax Credit	New 5,000 Seats	New 10,000 Seats	New 15,000 Seats
Basic Stadium Costs	\$17,010,349.00	\$13,443,983.00	\$12,812,995.00	\$18,620,749.00	\$20,614,083.00
Façade Upgrade	\$0.00	\$2,454,013.00	\$1,737,804.00	\$2,404,912.00	\$3,221,585.00
Field Improvements	\$1,073,975.00	\$1,073,975.00	\$1,073,975.00	\$1,073,975.00	\$1,073,975.00
Site Upgrades	\$999,600.00	\$999,600.00	\$999,600.00	\$999,600.00	\$999,600.00
Raised Support Facilities	n/a	\$1,612,997.00	709,049	709,049	709,049
Sound System	\$175,000.00	\$175,000.00	\$175,000.00	\$175,000.00	\$175,000.00
Patron Connection	n/a	\$500,000.00	n/a	n/a	n/a
Scoreboard	NIC	NIC	NIC	NIC	NIC
Total	19,258,924	18,146,571	16,799,374	23,274,281	26,084,243
Eligible Base Tax Credit At 35%	\$16,360,432.00 \$5,726,151.00			n/a	n/a

- **Operation and Maintenance Costs**

Estimated Stadium Operating Expenses					
Expense Type	Historical Victory Stadium (1)	Renovated Stadium 18,000 Seats	New Stadium 15,000 Seats	New Stadium 10,000 Seats	New Stadium 5,000 Seats
Salaries, Wages & Benefits	\$ 116,000.00	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 122,000.00	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 99,000.00
Utilities	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 47,000.00	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 38,000.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 27,000.00
Materials and Supplies	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Professional Services	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Other	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 32,000.00	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 23,000.00
Totals	\$232,000.00	\$290,000.00	\$272,000.00	\$243,000.00	\$217,000.00

(1) Represents average annual operating expenses over the past four fiscal years, inflated to 2005 dollars.

Note: Expenses in the table exclude any annual capital reserve fund contributions, the amount of which may vary depending on total renovation/construction project costs.

The City Manager advised that Mr. Garland was present to answer specific questions with regard to Historic Tax Credits.

Following a brief recess, Mayor Harris recognized the Members of Council for questions and comments.

Council Member Cutler asked the following questions:

Question: The Branch Highways contract with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers to dig bench cuts along the Roanoke River just down stream is creating a considerable amount of fill material. Using available fill material for both the demolition of Victory Stadium and the construction of bench cuts as recommended by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers along the Roanoke River, would it be practical or advantageous to elevate the new stadium site by the river with fill material before beginning construction.

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that he would address the question in general terms. It is possible to use fill material to raise the site in areas that are not critical to the structure of the stadium; the site currently has a lot of silt and the more weight that is placed on it, the more the structure tends to settle. In areas such as under the playing field, fill material could be used, as well as underneath sidewalk areas, landscaping, etc.

Question: Explain the premium that the City would pay to build a 5,000 seat stadium on or near the Victory Stadium site near the river, compared to an identical seating capacity stadium on an upland site, such as the campus at William Fleming High School.

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that without knowledge about the William Fleming site, his response would be based on assumptions and conditions. Based on a previous comparison, a high school stadium of 5,000 seats, with lighting and a comparable amount of support space for locker rooms, would cost approximately \$7.8 - \$7.9 million, including all soft costs. If locker rooms are not needed, \$2.2 million could be deducted from the estimate.

Question: For years, the City has stored motorized equipment under the stands at Victory Stadium, and on several occasions the equipment has been damaged by flooding. Would that area be permanently closed, or how would the accumulation of flood water be avoided?

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that presently there is no plan to prevent flood water from coming in inasmuch as the water comes up through the drain pipes, etc.; new support facilities would be built above the ten-year floodplain level; lower space where equipment was previously stored would not be changed and would flood during heavy rainfall; and one solution would be to install a sump pump to pump out water as it comes in. If the site totally floods, it would be difficult to keep water out of the area.

Question: How do you account for the discrepancy between your vehicle parking capacity number for Victory Stadium compared to that used by Richard Rife, Architect, which was based on an estimate provided by the City's Parks and Recreation Department.

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that the consultant did not go into an analysis on the number of parking spaces, typically about 3.5 – 3.75 people are calculated per car for football games, so the number of parking spaces needed would be determined on capacity; patrons typically walk about ten minutes to a ball park and all the spaces in the area could also be calculated. An efficient parking lot in the space was allowed for which provided for about 525 cars, and the figure was derived by taking the capacity number and dividing it by 3.5. In addition, there are other lots around the area on which patrons could park and walk to the stadium.

Question: Based on your experience as a stadium consultant, what are your thoughts with regard to the traffic situation, street capacity and parking capacity around the site of Victory Stadium?

Response: Mr. Holleman responded that it was average at best; there are large stadiums situated in the middle of campuses with no surrounding parking, and patrons walk from 10-60 minutes to reach the stadium; and it depends on the level of convenience and how the City would want patrons to come to the stadium. If the desire is to encourage patrons to use the facility, it should be as convenient as possible. The area is somewhat congested, but considering the types of events that have been held at Victory Stadium, traffic would not be that unreasonable and shuttle buses could be used, if necessary.

Council Member Dowe asked the following questions:

Question: Would sound system upgrades be primarily for sporting events, would the same sound system have the capacity to be used for concerts, or would the City have to address other improvements?

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that other improvements would be necessary because the sound system basically works for specific seat locations, for PA announcements, for playing the National Anthem, and would not support a rock band concert which was not included in the numbers inasmuch as the consultant was not instructed to look at concerts. The consultant's report did not include how to provide power for large events that may come to the stadium, however, additional costs would be incurred to provide electric power, or it could be accomplished through a temporary generator.

Question: It was mentioned that very seldom are there events at Victory Stadium where attendance of 15,000 – 20,000 people was achieved. Is that based on the historical propensity of the markets to support attendance, or on some historical information of the sites and the types of markets?

Response: Mr. Parker stated that it was based on the estimated types of events that could be held at the stadium, estimates for attendance were based on similar events held elsewhere and the historical usage of Victory Stadium.

Question: How many of those sites had similar facilities within a ten-mile radius?

Response: Mr. Parker stated that he did not know specifically, but did not think there were many, other than another municipal high school football stadium; and the comparables that the consultant reviewed did not host those types of outside events.

Question: If the schools decide to build stadia, how would that affect the potential of 62 events per year at Victory Stadium?

Response: Mr. Parker stated that 30 soccer and lacrosse and ten football games were included in the study, therefore, the stadium would lose 40 events out of the 62.

Question: In essence, the City would have to hold 18 such events to make up for lost operating expenses. How many missed opportunities could the City allow before the facility starts to look like it does now?

Response: Mr. Parker stated that he could not answer how many activities could be missed, the consulting team tried to show that there is no guarantee that any of the events would come to Roanoke, the City would have to go through the competitive bid process, and he did not know how long the City would choose to sustain that type of loss with that type of facility.

Question: Has research shown that aesthetics of a facility does not matter as much as the market's propensity to support the facility?

Response: Mr. Parker advised that both aesthetics and market support are important and the propensity of support is based upon events, which is based on providing a quality facility; therefore, it is a kind of circular equation. Providing a top quality facility and top quality events are key to encouraging patrons to visit the facility.

Vice- Mayor Fitzpatrick asked the following questions:

Question: What is entailed in the Historic Tax Credit process in terms of benefits to the City and monetary value?

Response: Mr. Garland stated that his group considers itself to be experts in historic preservation and in identifying those properties that have the potential to qualify for tax credits; however, they are not attorneys and do not form corporations and entities that are necessary to carry this type of project forward. The Historic Tax Credit project is both a State and Federal program; State tax credits are 25% of eligible expenses and the Federal program is 20% of eligible expenses. A structure must qualify for the program, meaning that the building is over 50 years old, and if the structure is not in a historic district, it would have to be included on the Register for Historic Places. In the case of Victory Stadium, the City would have to apply for the stadium to be included on both the State and Federal Register for Historic Places. Consultants met in early October with State representatives that are responsible for determining whether a structure can be included on the registry, and State representatives agreed to take the Victory Stadium issue to the appropriate committee to obtain a preliminary ruling as to whether Victory Stadium could be placed on the Registry. They have since advised that it is thought that Victory Stadium could be included on the listing which is the first step to qualify for Historic Tax Credits. Once the stadium is placed on the Register of Historic Places, any architectural and/or engineering projects would have to be done in such a way that they would not take away from the historic architecture of the building. The City would have to maintain the existing façade, and there could be no construction of additions on the outside of the existing façade. The City should try to limit building outside the extremities of the stadium since tax credits only apply to the existing structure, which would include anything from outside wall to outside wall, including the field, but would not apply to site work costs outside extremities of the building. A "not-for-profit" group could take advantage of the tax

credit by forming a “for-profit” corporation, the “not-for-profit” corporation would become a general partner in the syndication, and after the tax credit portion of the project is taken advantage of, ownership would revert back to the “not-for-profit” group. Most of the expenses on the project would be eligible; the total of 45 per cent that could be obtained through Historic Tax Credits on a normal for-profit project is diminished somewhat on a municipal project, because associated administrative costs carry a not-for-profit forward to take advantage of the tax credits, which historically have been about 35 per cent instead of 45 per cent of eligible expenses. The \$5 million figure comes from what can be recouped after construction, which can be subtracted from the total cost of the project.

Council Member Lea asked the following questions:

Question: If the City leans toward the larger stadium venue, would marketing be a critical piece?

Response: Mr. Parker responded in the affirmation and advised that the larger the facility, the more expenses will be incurred and more events will need to come through the facility. If the City loses the high school events, marketing will be critical.

Question: Are there certain persons or groups whose sole purpose is to market such facilities?

Response: Mr. Parker stated that he did not think it was all that common for a stadium with fields of this type, although there is a market primarily for baseball and football stadiums. There is a large community effort in the City of Salem to promote their facility and host between 20 – 30 events per year.

Question: When a locality talks about partnering with various conferences and/or college conferences, such as the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the first question is, how many people will a venue accommodate; therefore, is marketing an important element?

Response: Mr. Parker stated that marketing is critical, and starts with a demonstration of support by the facility and the community. His firm has been involved with the NCAA on a variety of levels looking at second-tier championships, and because of the push to make the second-tier championships more major events, communities are becoming more and more aggressive in their marketing efforts.

Council Member McDaniel asked the following questions:

Question/Comment: The Roanoke River Flood Reduction Project when completed would only protect the City from the 30-year flood range.

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that the levy goes only to the 30-year flood level, but the consultant's scenario goes to the railroad tracks and areas where the water backflows onto the site; there is no full protection even on the 30-year level, flood water is still projected to come in up to the ten-year level; and regardless of what the City does at Victory Stadium, there will be flooding.

Question: Review briefly the different scenarios at a 30-year flood level if the stadium is left as is versus the new options?

Response: Mr. Holleman referred to a previous slide and stated that currently, patrons enter on the lower grade and go up the ramp into the stands, the level where a visitor walks up is about the ten-year floodplain level, and theoretically floods to the level every ten years; and the area below, where equipment was previously stored, floods more often because it is in the two-year flood area. The line denoted below the first level is the 100-year floodplain and is about where the vomitories are located in the front of the facility; the 30-year floodplain is about half way in between, so practically speaking, the 30-year floodplain level cannot be worked with because space cannot be fitted between the 30-year floodplain and the level above. The consulting team also looked at the upper level, and there is structure to build a third level, but there is a question with regard to seating and what would be included on the third level. It is too far from the field to place the locker rooms, and it would not be practical for concessions. The third level would be the practical level to build on because it would be above the 100-year floodplain.

Question: Talk about the new scenarios?

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that the main concourse would be built above the 100-year floodplain, removal of a few rows of seating resulted in the concourse being higher; and placement of the concourse would allow people to look down onto the field and give vertical space which could support facilities above the 100-year floodplain, with about 14 feet of space underneath. The goal was to try and keep the artificial turf out of the ten-year floodplain by raising the field level; the lifespan of artificial turf is about ten years; and there would be a problem with artificial turf as particles would tend to float in the event of a lot of water and the turf would have to be hosed off to remove accumulated silt.

Question: Would it be economical in the long run to add on to the facility piecemeal?

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that in the long term, costs would increase just as the cost of construction increases every year; ten years from now, it would cost about 25 per cent more, so it will never be cheaper than it is currently. It is practical to add on, just as larger stadiums started out small, and added on approximately every five years. This concept works from the 5,000-seat configuration, which is the way that many stadiums have expanded.

Question: What would be the approximate cost of additions?

Response: Mr. Holleman responded that he could work up costs using today's dollars, but it would not be an accurate projection of costs in ten years.

Council Member Wishneff made the following observation and asked the following questions:

Question: Two examples locally of projects that were accomplished using Historic Tax Credits are the Jefferson Center and Warehouse Row. They continue to be owned by the City pursuant to 40-year leases with entities operating the facilities separately from the City. The Higher Education Center, O. Winston Link Museum, Grandin Theater, Shenandoah Hotel, and Burrell Hospital were also accomplished through Historic Tax Credits. The Culinary School will also be constructed through Historic Tax Credits, therefore, it is a well tested process.

Question: Can you provide more details regarding structural issues, since there has been a considerable amount of discussion in the community regarding the safety and condition of Victory Stadium.

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that the structural frame of the stadium is in good condition, with no cracks or spalling in the frame; the underside of the grandstands look better than most grandstands of its age, grandstands are fairly thick in order to withstand abuse where the concrete is spalling which is a good basis for which to work, it appears that the building is not settling and only those things that are not attached to the frame are settling, such as the sidewalk on grade, restrooms that were built on grade, block walls that were built on spread footings and/or

those things attached to the brick where one thing has moved and the other has not, which is an expansion situation between two different types of frames. Rusting of brick ties is an issue which can be addressed by taking out all of the brick and reinstalling with new stainless steel ties, or a method to remove the brick in place which would be almost as expensive as tearing the brick off and re-bricking. Either way, funds to cover the cost would need to be included in the budget.

Question: Should building plans be oriented to fit general instructions by representatives of the State Historic Tax Credits program?

Response: Mr. Holleman advised that he met with State representatives to present preliminary alternatives, and suggestions were made on what should and should not be done which were conveyed to Heery International to incorporate in the report.

Question: If the levy were in place, would flood water flow over the levy?

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that it appears that flood water comes through the back side of Victory Stadium and would come in before the water goes over the levy side.

Council Member Wishneff stated that to assist the biomedical research park in the area, the City may want to address the levy issue outside of the Victory Stadium project. He advised that if the levy were never constructed, or if the flood reduction project was not completed, Victory Stadium would have a field that could be washed off, with only locker rooms that would be left in the floodplain that could be hosed off.

Mr. Holleman responded that if the levy was not built, it will take less than a ten-year flood to flood up to that same level; water would come in at the five-year level instead of the ten-year level, and there would be a more frequent situation where locker rooms would have to be hosed down, etc.

Mr. Parker stated that the City's Building Commissioner was emphatic that any alternative, whether it be renovation or new construction, must meet code standards relative to floodplains, and anything that would be destroyed by a flood would have to be elevated above the 100-year floodplain by approximately two feet under any of the alternatives.

Question: Operating costs increase as the size of the stadium goes up and revenues go up. Under the consultant's projections, would it be less expensive to operate current Victory Stadium, rather than a 5,000 seat stadium, by approximately \$50,000.00 a year?

Response: Mr. Parker responded in the affirmative, with the facility being reliant upon the two-three concerts that were included in the report which act as a revenue driver.

Council Member Wishneff stated that it is important for the public to understand that the larger version of Victory Stadium loses less money annually than any of the other options.

Mr. Parker replied in the affirmative, assuming that there are three 15,000-person attended concerts per year, with the revenue driver coming from the concessions and rent that would be generated. The ability to attract three 15,000-person attended concerts is difficult and would require a serious marketing effort.

Question: Review the cost for each Option 1 using Historic Tax Credits.

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that the total for each concept includes the brick façade, field improvements, site upgrades, a good sound system, and support facilities that are waterproofed just above the ten-year floodplain. The total cost for Option 1 is approximately \$19.25 million, with \$6.36 million available in eligible funds through a Historic Tax Credit, equaling approximately \$13.5 million for Option 1 which includes 18,000 seats.

Question: Temporary restroom facilities were used for a recent concert in Charlottesville, Virginia. Are temporary restroom facilities typically provided for large events?

Response: Mr. Holleman replied that temporary restroom facilities are typical in areas where there is a lot of temporary seating or lawn seating, but code standards are specific and provide that the number of fixtures must be provided based on the number of permanent seats, no matter how many times the facilities are used. Option 2, which is the Victory Stadium renovation at 18,000 seats, with no tax credit, is about \$18.14 million; Option 3, which is a new stadium of 5,000 seats is \$16.8 million; Option 4 is a new 10,000 seat stadium, at a cost of \$23.27 million; and Option 5 is a 15,000 seat stadium at a cost of about \$26.08 million.

Council Member Cutler asked the following questions:

Question: The leadership of the Virginia National Guard plans to abandon the National Guard Armory within the next two years and move to a site "out of the floodplain"; hypothetically, if that building was not there, would the consultant have proposed to locate the building or the additional 5,000 seats of a 15,000 seat stadium on that end rather than on the river end of the stadium?

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that the issue would have to be revisited, although most likely it would not make that much difference relative to the floodplain. It is doubtful that the soil would be much different if the floor elevation of the building was high enough, it would involve flood proof construction, and would be less expensive to place some of the support space in the building instead of constructing a new structure.

Council Member Dowe asked the following questions:

Question: How many more floods would it take to deteriorate or at least leverage the solid foundation?

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that he did not think it was possible to say one way or another if further flooding would affect the foundation of the stadium to the point where it would start to settle, and the water table is very close underneath the building. Stadiums pose a continuous maintenance item inasmuch as they are neglected all over the country, because people build them, use them once a week, then forget about them with little or no maintenance. Stadiums require more maintenance than any other type building because they are open to the elements on all sides.

Question: Given flood considerations and the proximity of Victory Stadium to the Roanoke River, would it be feasible to consider a kind of river-front development that would be used in conjunction with a stadium, or a stadium site that could be used, regardless of whether the stadium was in operation?

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that he could not speak to the developability of the concept, other than to say that anything could be made to look good, and whether a business would want to come into a location that had the potential of flooding and whether that area of the City would promote that type of development is a big question. There would most likely be some spin-off businesses as a result of the bio-medical institute in the area.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick asked the following questions:

Question: If the City decided to spend \$13.5 million using the Historic Tax Credit option, would the City get another 60 years out of Victory Stadium before major investment is needed; or if the City elected to construct a new \$16.8 million aluminum metal structure facility, with a façade around it, what would be the life of that type of facility?

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that projections could be made, however, it is a matter of maintenance as to how long the stadium will last; if existing concrete at Victory Stadium had been properly maintained over the years, spalling would not have occurred and the only money required to be spent would have been for maintenance; and that type of decking requires more maintenance and waterproofing than for an aluminum deck. The structure that holds up the aluminum deck, which is galvanized steel, also must be maintained, just like any structural system or it will start to rust and cause problems with the steel, but aluminum decking requires less maintenance than concrete decking.

Council Member Lea asked the following questions:

Question: Could the two high schools use Victory Stadium while the facility is undergoing construction or renovation?

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that either concept would work, although both would have some inconveniences. If a new stadium is constructed, one side of Victory Stadium would have to be torn down while constructing a new side, and all patrons would sit on the same side. Many stadiums have been constructed through the football season. Certain things can be done with the right amount of timing and planning, i.e.: recoating the seats and installing new seats, using both sides for seating while working on restrooms and concessions underneath, and utilizing temporary restroom facilities and concessions.

Council Member McDaniel asked the following question:

Question: Were other stadiums studied for marketing purposes or for location, and were there any comparables?

Response: Mr. Parker stated that the focus was on the types of events, how they were operated and by whom, most of which were school districts or cities.

Council Member Wishneff asked the following question:

Question: Victory Stadium is a facility with commercial roads surrounding it and the structure is visible from I-581. As opposed to constructing high school facilities in the neighborhoods, would it be an attractive location?

Response: Mr. Parker stated that it would depend upon ingress and egress and it was difficult to answer the question since he did not know what traffic is like around Victory Stadium when the facility is occupied by 6,000 – 7,000 people.

Council Member Dowe asked the following question:

Question: When the consultant looked at other stadiums across the country that have a high volume of usage, was there a way to determine the affect of attendance levels?

Response: Mr. Parker stated that the team did not specifically look at attendance levels, many facilities were operated by school districts which do not closely track attendance, and facilities are generally constructed to accommodate the primary attendance in terms of capacity. There is an impact if the facility has 15,000 seats and only 2,000 people in the stands, and 2,000 people in a 5,000 seat venue would still feel empty, therefore, it is important to generate a home-field advantage and to scale the facility accordingly.

Mayor Harris asked the following questions:

Question: Will the new option at 10,000 seats and 15,000 seats, as well as the two renovation options, price restrooms and concession points at a permanent seating level of 8,000 people?

Response: Mr. Holleman responded in the affirmative.

Question: With regard to renovation options, how did the consulting team get from 18,000 seats to an 8,000-seat toilet connection?

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that the figure came about as a result of previous stadium work, in that there were "X" amount of seats that were permanent and the number might have been 8,000, and everything above that for special events would be in temporary facilities; as the consulting team started to hear that the number would be over 2,000 – 3,000 people in the facility, to have

toilets for 18,000 people seemed like an extreme cost, the point being to include less and get permission to use temporary facilities in the event of a large festival that might require toilets for 15,000 people. The toilets downstairs would either be revamped as back-up toilet facilities, realizing that they are located in the floodplain, or some combination of both; and typically, by the plumbing code, a facility must have X many fixtures for X many people, with X number for women and X number for men; therefore, the City would need seek a variance, or an agreement from its Building Department.

Question: Would permanent seating be any type of seating; for example, if some part of the stadium had aluminum benches and some part had the concrete terracing, does the concrete terracing still count as permanent seating, or would benches be counted as permanent seating?

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that a determination would be made by the Building Commissioner.

Question: Under the renovation scenario, the first nine rows would be removed for wheelchair seating. Since most patrons will tend to gravitate to the first 12 rows because of the view, how would that affect the sight line from the first row to the field?

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that it would depend upon where the wheelchairs are parked as to whether they would pose an inconvenience, and as the structural seats are removed in the first bay by the column and the wheelchair platform is installed, wheelchairs would be located against the next row of seats, therefore, spectators would be able to see over wheelchairs in the same manner as anyone sitting in a regular seat. The only obstruction would be when wheelchairs are moving around on the front, which is no different than someone standing up and walking down the row.

Question: Raising the field surface to the point where the crown is presently located and leveled from there would place the field above the ten-year floodplain. Under a renovation option, if artificial turf were installed, is there the capacity to raise the field to the 20-year floodplain level?

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that there is a little give and take, but when watching a football game, spectators rarely sit and prefer to be about six feet above the grade in order to see over the shoulder of the player. The more the field surface is raised without raising the stadium, the worse the sight line will become for persons in the front row, therefore, a balance must be achieved.

Question: When studying at communities that regularly host AAU events, what are typically the number of soccer or lacrosse fields that a community should provide?

Response: Mr. Parker stated that it would depend on the size of the tournament. AAU officials would take as many as they could get, or perhaps in the realm of 20 to 40.

Question: How much of the work could be done in advance of receiving the Historic Tax Credit?

Response: Mr. Garland stated that Historic Tax Credit is a multi-application process and whether or not the project qualifies should be known prior to commencing the project. A preliminary application provides certain assurances that the project will qualify for Historic Tax Credit.

Mr. Garland advised that he felt comfortable in stating that Victory Stadium would qualify for Historic Tax Credits based on discussions with representatives of the Department of Historic Resources. The longest piece in the process would involve getting on the Register for Historic Landmarks; and a three-six month time period would be involved, including a lengthy pictorial process of photographing the current structure and providing proposed renovation plans to the Department of Historic Resources.

Question: With regard to the renovation option, what would be included on the second level out of the 100-year floodplain?

Response: Mr. Holleman stated that the second level would include restrooms, concessions, concourse and stairs. Locker room facilities would have to go either on ground level or in a separate building; however, if the City pursues the Historic Tax Credits, a separate building could not be constructed.

Mayor Harris expressed appreciation to Mr. Garland, Mr. Parker and Mr. Holleman for their presentations. He stated that if Council Members require additional information, they are requested to e-mail their question(s) to the City Manager who will forward the question(s) to the consulting team, and the question(s) and response(s) would then be e-mailed to all Members of the Council.

The Mayor advised that the Roanoke City School Board had tentatively been requested to meet with the Council Thursday, November 3 at 4:00 p.m.; however, he stated that the Chair had previously indicated that the School Board did not have a presentation that it wished to make to the Council.

He called attention to correspondence from the School Board Chair transmitting a preliminary report of the Superintendent's Athletic Committee, and noted that the School Board would be available to provide clarification to respond to questions by Council, and/or to engage in dialogue; whereupon, he inquired as to the pleasure of the Council.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick stated that the communication from the School Board was tantamount to not accepting responsibility for the duties of School Trustees. He further stated that it is the responsibility of the School Board to advise Council as to what the School Board believes is in the best interest of the young people who attend Roanoke's schools, and whether the City of Roanoke can afford to do what the School Board wants, or agrees with their recommendations, is an issue for the Council to address. He advised that it is the responsibility of the School Board to apprise Council of the Board's position regarding Victory Stadium versus stadia at the two high schools.

Council Member Cutler stated that Council should pursue the opportunity to meet with the School Board on Thursday, November 3, 2005 at 4:00 p.m.

Council Member McDaniel spoke in support of meeting with the School Board on November 3 to hear the Board's position on the issue.

Council Member Lea stated that there had been ample time for the School Board to present its position to the Council regarding stadia at the two high schools inasmuch as the matter has been on the table for an extended period of time, and to bring the School Board into the discussion at this "11th hour" would only cloud the issue. He advised that it is incumbent upon the Council to move forward and make a long overdue decision with regard to Victory Stadium. He called attention to correspondence from the Chair of the School Board advising that the Board has no recommendation to submit to the Council, therefore, to force the School Board to make a recommendation would be inappropriate on the part of Council.

Council Member Wishneff concurred in the remarks of Mr. Lea and advised that an alternative would be to ask the School Board to review the consultant's report and advise if the five options meet the needs of the school system.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick stated that the School Board is appointed to operate Roanoke's schools and to provide the best possible education for the City's 13,000 students. He added that to have an issue involving high school football with no direction from the School Board, which is responsible for school programs, is ludicrous. He advised that his purpose in calling for the joint meeting is to offer an opportunity for the School Board to review the five options and to advise Council of what the Board believes will be in the best interest of Roanoke's students.

Council Member Wishneff stated that when he served on the Roanoke City School Board, the School Board advised Council, in writing, that it supported the renovation of Victory Stadium.

Council Member Dowe stated that the School Board should be informed of all ramifications associated with the five options presented by the consultant, inasmuch as the School system will be the Stadium's largest user.

The Mayor advised that five members of the School Board were present and heard the Council's discussion; and Council had previously received correspondence from the Chair of the School Board, and he would contact her on the following day to invite additional comment, either in person or in writing, by the School Board as a result of the consultant's report. He stated that this approach would leave the decision with the School Board in terms of how the Board would like to interact or communicate with the Council, and he would advise the Council prior to the close of business on Wednesday, November 2, if the School Board wishes to meet with the Council on Thursday, November 3, 2005, at 4:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the Mayor declared the special meeting adjourned.

A P P R O V E D

ATTEST:

Mary F. Parker
City Clerk

C. Nelson Harris
Mayor

398

ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL

November 3, 2005

4:00 P.M.

A special meeting of the Council of the City of Roanoke and the Roanoke City School Board was called to order on Thursday, November 3, 2005, at 4:00 p.m., in the Emergency Services Conference Room, Room 159, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, with Mayor C. Nelson Harris and Chair Kathy G. Stockburger presiding.

ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: M. Rupert Cutler, Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Sherman P. Lea, Brenda L. McDaniel, Brian J. Wishneff, and Mayor C. Nelson Harris-----6.

ABSENT: None-----0.

(Council Member Dowe arrived late.)

ROANOKE CITY SCHOOL TRUSTEES PRESENT: Jason E. Bingham, David B. Carson, William H. Lindsey, Alvin L. Nash, Courtney A. Penn, David B. Trinkle, and Chair Kathy G. Stockburger-----7.

ABSENT: None-----0.

The Mayor and Chair declared the existence of a quorum of their respective bodies.

The invocation was delivered by Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Representing the City of Roanoke: Darlene L. Burcham, City Manager; William M. Hackworth, City Attorney; Jesse A. Hall, Director of Finance; and Mary F. Parker, City Clerk.

Representing the Roanoke City Public Schools: Marvin T. Thompson, Superintendent; Cindy H. Lee, Clerk; and Timothy R. Spencer, Legal Counsel.

The Mayor read the following communication calling the special meeting:

"November 2, 2005

The Honorable Vice-Mayor and Members
of the Roanoke City Council
Roanoke, Virginia

Dear Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Members of Council:

Pursuant to Section 10, Meetings of Council Generally, of the Charter of the City of Roanoke, this is to advise you that I am calling a special meeting of the Council on Thursday, November 3, 2005, at 4:00 p.m., in Room 159, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W. The purpose of the special meeting will be to meet with the Roanoke City School Board to discuss issues in connection with the consultant's report regarding Victory Stadium and a football stadium at Patrick Henry and William Fleming High Schools.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

S/C. Nelson Harris

C. Nelson Harris
Mayor"

The Mayor advised that the special meeting was called for the purpose of discussing an issue, not to discuss people, and if the discourse in any way becomes uncivil, he would adjourn the meeting.

The Mayor referred to a communication from the Chair of the School Board under date of October 27, 2005, transmitting a report submitted by the Superintendent's Athletic Committee; whereupon, he called upon the School Board Chair for remarks.

Council Member Dowe entered the meeting.

Chair Stockburger advised that it is the intent and the responsibility of the School Board to provide safe, high performing schools for Roanoke's children during a time of significant and time critical challenges, therefore, to the extent that athletic programs help the school system to achieve its goals, the conversation that is about to take place is important. However, she stated that it is hoped that future conversations will center on instruction, learning and building high quality schools.

The Chair reviewed the contents of the interim report submitted by the Superintendent's Athletic Committee that was appointed in April 2005, and was charged with the responsibility of evaluating City Schools athletic needs.

She added that the committee will not complete its assignment until the end of the calendar year; however, the interim report stated that it would be in the best interests of Roanoke City students to locate a stadium at each high school. Historically, she explained that the rationale has been for a shared stadium, due to cost effectiveness and the fact that fewer students were involved in athletics than they are today; and while the rationale supports and the School Board prefers school based stadiums, it understands that costs are a consideration as well as the impact on neighborhoods. She added that the issue is ultimately a decision that will be made by the Council; therefore, the position of the School Board is in support of school stadiums, however, the School Board would support ultimately the decision of Council. She stated that this is not an eleventh hour maneuver by the School Board; the School Board did not encourage or request any of the petitions or advocacy groups to come forward, but the above stated position was taken after reviewing the report of the Athletic Committee.

A summary of the report of the Superintendent's Athletic Committee is as follows:

"Charge:

The Superintendent's Athletic Committee was unanimously agreed to by the School Board at its April 2005 meeting. This committee was established to discern District athletic needs. These needs include, but are not limited to:

- Determining short-term facility, management, safety, maintenance, and cost needs for a high school football facility for the next three to four years.
- Being ready to respond to the upcoming Roanoke City Council decision regarding a stadium, confirming and lobbying for the needs of our student athletes and school system as a whole as it pertains to this decision.
- Evaluate and make recommendations for athletic programming at the middle and high school level, including hiring practices, stipends, transportation needs, relationship with the City Parks and Recreation department, intramurals, etc.
- Planning long-range and short-term capital plans for football as well as all athletic programs and facilities in the school system.

History:

- The committee convened in September.
- The committee has met for two-hour sessions on three occasions.
- The committee is made up of board members, parents, coaches, teachers, athletic directors.
- The committee hopes to present its report to the school board at the December school board meeting.

Discussions and Decisions to Date:

- Preparations are underway to determine a location for high school football within the City and on the grounds of RCPS. Final cost analyses are due soon. It is anticipated that a subcommittee will be formed to work with the school system, the Parks and Recreation Department, and neighborhoods in order to be fully ready for football in August 2006.
- Much time has been spent discussing the difficulties in fielding equitable teams in all ten sports at the middle school level. Concerns regarding costs, travel, and skill development have been discussed. "Out-of-the-box" alternatives are being considered. It is hoped that a way to provide competitive sports in a cost effective manner can be found. This is felt to be vital to school spirit, student health and developing feeder programs for the high schools. There is still much work to do in this area. We will probably have a public forum on this and other issues before the committee finishes its work.
- Much time has also been spent on the longer term stadium decision. We have carefully reviewed the history, including many documents, regarding the Victory Stadium decision as it pertains to the school system. The committee has understood the decision of previous school boards and school administrations to support a shared stadium. It is felt, based on documentation, that if cost, space, and ongoing maintenance were not issues, the school system would have supported two high school stadiums throughout the debate. "Plan B" for a shared stadium was "satisfactory" due to perceived cost savings in a shared facility. However, this committee feels that with the

time that has elapsed in this debate, the changes in school board and administration, the now available space on the high school campuses and the possibility that it may very well be more cost effective to have a stadium at each high school. "Plan A" should be more fully promoted by the School Board. This, again, has been the school system's "Plan A" all along, and if indeed it is more cost effective, then this is the right path to take. We feel it is okay for the School Board to adopt this decision based on all the new information that has become available. Again, if there are not cost savings in a shared facility (which we do not know at this time), then the School Board should strongly support what appears to be what it has wanted all along: two high school stadiums. It is the unanimous consensus of the committee that each high school has a stadium on campus. The reasons given by committee members include:

'Home games' should actually be 'at home.' On-site stadiums would promote student involvement if for no other reason than to eliminate the need for transportation. It is time to give these children their own memories as opposed to trying to relive a bygone year. The booster clubs could actually earn money.

'Better school control of facility - Improved pep and morale - Multiple uses: soccer, band, convocations, pep rallies, etc. - Opportunity for booster clubs - Improvement opportunities for city wide events with better complexes and facilities - Less cost associated with travel, security, etc.'

'We would use the field for more than just football. We not only struggle with scheduling home games on Friday night but we are without a place to play soccer, lacrosse, sub varsity football, as well as sub varsity soccer, lacrosse, and a place for the band to practice on a regulation field. We are at a huge disadvantage for students to have opportunities to use a school field and we lose money, spirit and community support not having our own field.'

'1. Build school spirit and pride. 2. Eliminate transportation costs for home games. 3. Booster clubs, school clubs, and other teams could earn money from concessions. 4. Home fan attendance would increase due to decreased travel.'

'1. The students develop a better school identity by playing on their own campuses. 2. Transportation costs can be reduced. 3. Students take ownership and develop pride. 4. Schools can make a schedule without constantly having to coordinate with another school or another government agency.'

'Constructing two stadiums to be used for high school athletics (football, soccer, lacrosse, etc.) will cost less than a shared City stadium and they will certainly improve student morale, foster school and community pride and spirit. They will allow schools and booster organizations the opportunity to collect revenues that a shared stadium will not allow and will reduce the costs that the high school must now incur in terms of facility rent and transportation costs. Stadiums at the high schools are what our students deserve.'

- Work on short-term and long-range capital plans for the athletic needs of our school system have just begun by this committee. Obviously these will be related to the outcome of the pending City Council decision, and the recommendations as related to programming and this work will, therefore, be the last task of this committee."

The Mayor opened the floor for discussion.

The Superintendent reviewed the following High School Statistics 2000-2001 through 2004-2005:

Roanoke City Public Schools
High School Statistics 2000-2001 through 2004-2005

Dropouts

School	Year				
Grade Level	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
Patrick Henry High					
Grade 9	39	15	20	24	20
Grade 10	38	22	21	13	17
Grade 11	21	9	14	11	30
Grade 12	21	9	9	8	13
Total Dropouts	119	55	64	56	80
Dropout Rate	6.97%	3.22%	3.54%	3.08%	4.49%
William Fleming High					
Grade 9	50	56	42	24	29
Grade 10	36	39	19	21	17
Grade 11	34	18	15	18	23
Grade 12	18	13	13	11	12
Total Dropouts	138	126	89	74	81
Dropout Rate	10.24%	9.28%	6.29%	5.31%	5.56%
Noel C. Taylor Academy					
Grade 9	14	26	20	17	24
Grade 10	9	5	10	6	5
Grade 11	5	8	5	4	4
Grade 12	2	2	3	2	3
Total Dropouts	30	41	38	29	36
Dropout Rate	21.67%	27.78%	33.57%	26.72%	22.05%
Blue Ridge Technical					
Grade 9	0	0	3	7	4
Grade 10	0	4	7	4	2
Grade 11	0	0	0	2	1
Grade 12	0	0	0	2	1
Total Dropouts	0	4	10	15	8
Dropout Rate	0%	33.33%	29.41%	17.24%	8.51%
Combined Middle School					
Grade 7	12	2	4	5	14
Grade 8	16	17	12	8	9
Total middle school dropouts	28	19	16	13	23
Total RCPS Dropouts	315	245	217	187	228
Dropout Rate	6.08%	4.67%	3.99%	3.40%	4.07%

The Superintendent reviewed the following fact sheet with regard to proposed high school athletic facilities:



ROANOKE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Bernard J. Godek

Office of Associate Superintendent for Management

P. O. Box 13145 ■ Roanoke, VA 24031

Phone: (540) 853-1644 ■ Fax: (540) 853-2590

E-Mail: bgodek@roanoke.k12.va.us

Roanoke City Public Schools Proposed High School Athletic Facilities Fact Sheet

Goal: It is the goal of Roanoke City Public Schools to bring high school athletics back to the high schools.

Description

- 3,000 seating capacity athletic facilities, located at Patrick Henry and William Fleming High Schools.
- State of the art lighting system, which limits illumination of areas outside of the athletic facility.
- The latest in multiuse artificial turf technology, known as Field-Turf ®.
- 700+ parking spaces available, with overflow parking at Shriner Field.
- The athletic facilities will be complete with the following features:
Home grandstand seating (lower level – concrete, upper level – steel),
Visitor grandstand seating (concrete), Home and visitor concessions,
Restroom buildings, Press box, Landscaping, Scoreboard, Sidewalks &
concourse, Site fencing & gates, Ticket building, Complete track renovations
– including an all weather eight lane rubberized metric track.

Benefits

- Increase pride in school culture.
- Schools will receive the benefit for all revenue generated through ticket or concession sales.
- Eliminates the fees associated with per game or scrimmage facility use as charged through rentals fees required by the City of Roanoke.
- Removes flooding concerns and postponements due to inclement weather.
- Allows students to experience traditional homecoming events at their home school.
- Prevents the need for students to drive from game events back to their school sites for post game activities.

Good Neighbor Initiatives

- Roanoke City Public Schools, in conjunction with the Roanoke City Police Department, will devise a traffic, parking, and pedestrian control plan.
- School division updates and community feedback will be conducted on a quarterly basis.
- There will be limited nighttime use and daytime usage will be maximized.
- The school system will work with principals at the respective high schools to develop a litter control service-learning project, managed by student groups such as the Student Government Association.
- Fencing will prevent access to the athletic facility from any point other than the main entrance.
- Provisions will be made for the use of the facility by the school PTAs and other neighborhood organizations, as allowed by local laws and school board policy.
- Provisions will be made for access to additional concessions by the school PTAs and other neighborhood organizations, as allowed by local laws and school board policy.

Discovering the Wealth in Every Student

The Superintendent reviewed the following conceptual estimates for high school stadia under date of October 27, 2005:

Roanoke City HS Stadium
Conceptual Estimate
October 27, 2005

<i>Item Description</i>	<i>Amounts</i>
Erosion Control and Earthwork	\$ 175,000
Seeding	\$ 20,000
Paved Service Drive	\$ 23,420
Drainable Pavers	\$ 8,100
Sidewalks and Concourses	\$ 87,012
Site Fencing and Gates	\$ 31,200
Ticket Building	\$ 26,000
Storm Drainage System	\$ 49,600
Domestic Water	\$ 23,600
Water Connection Fee	\$ 6,881
Sanitary Sewer	\$ 37,200
Sitework	\$ 486,913
Lower Level Concrete	\$ 525,441
Upper Level Steel/Aluminum	\$ 192,000
Home Grandstand Seating	\$ 717,441
Visitor Grandstand	\$ 363,368
Home Concession/Mens Toilet Building	\$ 145,000
Home Womens Toilet Building	\$ 130,000
Visitors Concessions/Toilets/Pressbox Building	\$ 250,000
Stone Base and Underdrain System	\$ 227,550
FieldTurf Surface	\$ 360,288
Perimeter Concrete Curb	\$ 11,600
Seeding	\$ 6,000
Landscaping	\$ 26,000
Storm Drainage System	\$ 16,600
Scoreboard	\$ 10,000
Public Address System	\$ 25,000
Playing Field	\$ 681,138
Lighting System	\$ 175,000
Existing Track Renovations	\$ 185,296
Subtotal	\$ 3,113,142
General Requirements	\$ 233,486
Testing Allowance	\$ 5,000
Contractors Fee	\$ 187,681
Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$ 228,749
Subtotal	\$ 3,747,958
Design Development Contingency	\$ 374,796
Total	\$ 4,122,753

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick advised that since his children are no longer enrolled in the City's School system, he is not attuned to what today's young people need as the school system tries to intergrate both academics and athletics to provide an overall holistic education; his purpose in asking for the joint meeting of Council and the School Board was not for the purpose of requiring the School Board to take a position but to ask the School Board and the School Superintendent to share their thoughts on what is best for Roanoke's young people. Therefore, he asked the School Board and School Superintendent to help the Council to understand the relationship between academics and athletics.

Superintendent Thompson advised that Roanoke currently has two high schools that are undergoing change with regard to not only their physical location, but their physical design; Roanoke has had two campus-style schools for many years; in a matter of a few short months, Patrick Henry High School students will be moved into a singular facility, which, in itself, changes the culture of the school community; and in approximately three years, students at William Fleming High School will do likewise. In terms of cultural changes, he explained that for years, students have passed each other in pods, but when students are brought together in one unit, different types of communication takes place which presents certain implications for the school to begin to grow into a total school community.

He stated that there are certain numerical values to examining the need to provide on site stadiums and reviewed information with regard to Roanoke City's graduation and drop-out rate which demonstrates the pattern for the past five years. He added that the City's graduation rate has not been above 60 per cent during the last five years; as the school system strives to improve the graduation rate, numbers will be added to every class each year, and as the school system moves to progress and change, numbers at each grade level could increase by about 200 students on average for each year; therefore, 600 extra students every year in each school in a school system that is already at capacity at both high schools brings to mind questions with regard to the future impact of a third high school in six to seven years. He stated that he expects the school system to become better at closing the gap in the graduation rate, and Roanoke's schools will be well over capacity in six years or more.

He advised that when talking about building stronger school communities, at some point in time William Fleming and Patrick Henry High Schools may not be the only entities in the City of Roanoke in terms of providing educational and other opportunities for high school students.

Council Member Cutler asked the Superintendent to be more specific with regard to the role of athletics, particularly football stadiums on school campuses, insofar as contributing to the graduation statistics.

The Superintendent advised that currently in the athletic community, a lot of time is being spent on feeder patterns and developing stronger athletic programs overall and an increase in student participation. He stated that in his experience as a high school administrator, it is quite telling when strong athletic programs are not in place which leads to idle students; students look to the school for a sense of belonging, for activities and opportunities; many students have to travel away from the school to participate in and to practice sports activities, therefore, there is no true connection to the school which is the missing piece. He called attention to certain inherent intangibles that can translate into negative discipline numbers, the number of students who drop-out of school who are not inspired or motivated, and athletics is the first phase of enhancing opportunities for the largest number of students in any high school and creates the greatest number of opportunities for all students to participate by the number of sports activities that are offered. For example, he added that the Science Club is simply the Science Club for those students who are interested in science, but athletics has many bounds and offers students an opportunity to expose their skills based on their personal preference.

With regard to the relevance of athletic fields versus the drop-out rate, the Superintendent advised that Roanoke City is losing students as early as the seventh grade; as we look at what the schools and school programs are doing for children, it is important to look at feeder patterns to involve young people as early as possible in order to formulate strong athletic programs; walking out of a student's own school down to his or her locker room and onto the school's athletic field instills a source of pride, decreases travel time for young people who drive to practice, and removes a transportation barrier for some students who do not have the means to travel to other locations.

He stated that athletic fields have a great impact on not only students but parents who use the facilities after hours for walking or jogging which enables the school to become a part of the entire community, rather than simply a building where students attend school.

Council Member Wishneff requested clarification on the Superintendent's statement that providing an athletic field for practice and sports activities will help to decrease the school drop-out rate; whereupon, Mr. Thompson advised that it is a variable that provides an opportunity for students to participate and to become a part of the school community.

Council Member Wishneff requested data to confirm that the student drop out rate will decrease if practice fields are located on the school campus; whereupon, Mr. Thompson advised that he would provide research articles that speak specifically to the effects of interscholastic sports participation on academic achievement at the middle and high school levels.

Chair Stockburger called attention to a school district in the State of Pennsylvania that recently constructed a stadium, and research reveals that extra curricular activities increased the school systems graduation rate.

The Superintendent advised that a 3,000 seat capacity athletic facility located at each of the high school sites has been discussed.

Council Member Cutler inquired if there is sufficient land for an athletic field at Patrick Henry High School; whereupon, the Superintendent advised that according to the architect, the sitting is located to the rear of the building, below level in a kind of bowl configuration, and he has been assured that the area will accommodate a 3,000 seat athletic field.

When questioned if the bowl configuration would help to alleviate light and noise issues, the Superintendent advised that he would confer with the architect and advise Council accordingly.

Council Member McDaniel inquired as to the number of night games that would be held on each athletic field; whereupon, the Superintendent advised that football is the primary night event and each high school plays five home games, and other events could include soccer which is played during early evening in the spring.

On the cost handout, Council Member Dowe requested a clarification of the term domestic water and testing allowance.

Upon question, Dr. Trinkle advised that subsurface evaluations were performed and utilities were purposely moved out of the area at Patrick Henry High School.

Question was raised as to whether the School Board/School Administration had entertained the idea of limiting lights to football play only so that the neighborhood would not be subjected to a 24/7 kind of use.

The Chair responded that the fears articulated by the Raleigh Court community relate to "what if" types of questions such as traffic control, or whether the field is used 15 or 20 lighted nights a year. She stated that if stadiums are constructed at the two high schools, residents of the areas should provide input.

Council member Wishneff advised that 16 per cent of the City's population is 65 years of age or older, the City has a limited amount of tax dollars, Roanoke's taxpayers have been generous by allowing the City to construct/renovate \$100 million in high schools improvements; therefore, he inquired if the School Board had \$10 million dollars to spend and the question was raised as to the best way to improve the high school drop-out rate, would the answer be to construct stadia at the two high schools.

Superintendent Thompson responded that the School Board was invited to the meeting because the City of Roanoke has \$15 million to spend on stadiums that impact schools.

Council Member Dowe inquired about traffic as it relates to present school activities versus the addition of a sporting venue; whereupon, the Superintendent advised that any school when addressing new goals, new challenges and certain changes could, by its design, create a new traffic pattern or increase the volume of people.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick expressed appreciation to the School Board and to the Superintendent for meeting with Council and advised that the sharing of information will help Council to make the best decision on behalf of Roanoke's children.

Council Member McDaniel advised that concerns have been expressed not only in the Raleigh Court neighborhood, but in the Grandin Court neighborhood concerning the stadium at Patrick Henry High School. She inquired if the stadium at Patrick Henry will include a track; whereupon, the Superintendent advised that the track will be located at the William Fleming site.

She inquired if students drive from game events back to the school sites for post game activities; whereupon, the Superintendent responded in the affirmative and advised of the risk of various negatives that could happen.

Council Member Cutler advised that he was not comfortable in spending taxpayers' money on Victory Stadium which is located in a floodway; and after spending 50 years studying natural resources management and water management, he can attest to the fact that floods on the Roanoke River will continue and worsen as suburbs in Blacksburg develop on the headwaters of the Roanoke River, and as more development takes place in Roanoke County, flood water will flow down the Roanoke River.

He advised that when touring the new Patrick Henry High School, it appeared that the design created the sense of smaller schools by dividing the school. He inquired if a stadium has the potential of bringing groups of students together around one athletic program in order to generate a sense of one school.

Superintendent Thompson advised that the design of Patrick Henry offers great opportunities for internal small learning communities; a variable of the school drop-out rate involves curriculum and when the curriculum is changed, students will be engaged in a different way; and stadia at the two high schools will provide an opportunity that Roanoke's students have not previously had.

Mayor Harris inquired if the Superintendent was comfortable in advising the Council that two stadia could be constructed for a combined cost of \$8.2 million; whereupon, the Superintendent advised that he was quite confident with the \$8.2 million figure. He stated that inflation is always a variable, if stadia for the two high schools are approved by Council, it would be two years before the stadium at Patrick Henry High School is completed; and it would take three to four years before construction on the William Fleming stadium could begin therefore, a natural five per cent inflation rate was built into the \$8.2 million figure.

Mayor Harris inquired about the opinion of the athletic community; i.e.: athletic directors, coaches, parents, teachers etc., concerning school athletic fields; whereupon, the Superintendent advised that they support stadia at the two high schools.

Other than football, Mayor Harris inquired if there would be a need to hold other athletic events at a shared stadium; whereupon, the Superintendent advised that compacted school stadiums with more green space would allow other events to occur on site.

Mayor Harris inquired if stadia were constructed on the two high school campuses as a part of the school complex, would the School Board operate, manage and maintain the facilities; whereupon, the Superintendent responded in the affirmative and advised that it was one of the reasons the school system chose to look at astroturf which is low maintenance and creates greater opportunities for more frequent play.

Mayor Harris asked the Superintendent to discuss how concessions would be addressed at a high school-based stadium versus a shared stadium; whereupon, the Superintendent referred to a concept where revenue generated at school activities would go back to the school's athletic programs; some programs could become self sufficient; and operating concessions would provide an opportunity for students that participate in clubs and organizations to increase their activities.

Assuming that stadia for both high schools are approved, Mayor Harris inquired about the timeline for completion; whereupon, the Superintendent advised that the Patrick Henry stadium would be completed in the fall of 2007, followed by the William Fleming stadium in the fall of 2010.

Mayor Harris made the observation that the William Fleming stadium would include a track and field within the stadium footprint; however, the footprint for the Patrick Henry stadium would include improving the existing track on the other side of Shrine Hill. Dr. Trinkle advised that some of the track and field events will be moved to the outside of the track. It was noted that a price of \$160,000.00 was quoted to rotorize and remove everything from the outside, however, it was not clear if the \$160,000.00 was included in the \$4.1 million figure for a stadium.

The Mayor advised and the Superintendent confirmed that the stadium would be constructed in the general vicinity of McQuilkin Hall located on the Patrick Henry campus. He inquired if participation by students in high school athletics has increased or decreased; whereupon, the Superintendent advised that participation has declined.

Dr. Trinkle advised that participation, city-wide, in Parks and Recreation programs, as well as middle school participation has declined and no one understands why; the school system enjoys a good relationship with the City's Parks and Recreation Department and a part of the solution will involve a better relationship between the Parks and Recreation Department and the schools to develop a new and more competitive programs at the middle school level in order to feed the high school level.

When going off site for an athletic event, Mayor Harris inquired if a cost analysis was prepared comparing on campus versus off campus activities; whereupon, the Superintendent advised that figures have not been quantified to this point.

The Mayor inquired if there is any liability exposure to going off campus for an athletic event; whereupon, the Superintendent advised that there are always liability issues when students travel to and from school activities.

Mayor Harris requested more information on the thrust of Roanoke's school system to enhance the school athletic program on a number of levels.

Dr. Trinkle advised that to date there has been no mention of athletics within the school system, no studies have been completed on how athletics affect academics or school morale, and there are no short term or long term budgetary plans in the school budget involving athletics. He stated that the goal of the Athletic Committee is to determine and to prioritize needs leading to short term and long term capital, as well as programming needs that involve athletics. He explained that various options are under consideration such as eliminating certain programs, enhancing other programs, working with the City's Department of Parks and Recreation, and cutting back on transportation expenses, etc., all of which will be presented to the School Board for consideration.

Should the Council approve stadia at the two high schools, Mayor Harris inquired about the strategy of the School Board to engage the Raleigh Court/Grandin Court neighborhood in discussions; whereupon, the Superintendent advised of the importance of receiving input from the neighborhoods by listening to concerns and establishing an oversight committee that would participate in implementation.

In the event of a sell out at the 3,000 seat stadium at Patrick Henry, Mayor Harris inquired about parking capacity; whereupon, the Superintendent advised that approximately 1500 persons attend a average football game so there will be sufficient parking.

Council Member Cutler advised that the School Board has other priorities to consider, particularly instruction and academics; City Council also has other priorities such as a new library, a recreation center, etc., therefore, if stadia can be constructed for less than \$15 million, any excess funds could be used to address other City/School priorities.

The Mayor expressed appreciation to the School Board for meeting with the Council and advised that Victory Stadium options will be discussed by the Council on Monday, November 7, 2005, at 2:00 p.m.

The Mayor advised that Council is scheduled to meet on Monday, November 7, 2005, at 9:00 a.m., for the Council's monthly work session; however, a quorum of the Council was not expected to be present until 10:00 a.m.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that Council Member Cutler would open the meeting on Monday, November 7 at 9:00 a.m., declare that a quorum was not present and recess the meeting until 10:00 a.m., in Room 159, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, Virginia.

There being no further business, at 5:40 p.m., the Mayor and the School Board Chair declared their respective meetings adjourned.

A P P R O V E D

ATTEST:

Mary F. Parker
City Clerk

C. Nelson Harris
Mayor

ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL

November 7, 2005

9:00 a.m.

The Council of the City of Roanoke met in regular session on Monday, November 7, 2005, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 159, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, with Council Member M. Rupert Cutler presiding, pursuant to Chapter 2, Administration, Article II, City Council, Section 2-15, Rules of Procedure, Rule 1, Regular Meetings, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, and pursuant to Resolution No. 37109-070505 adopted by the Council on Tuesday, July 5, 2005.

PRESENT: Council Member M. Rupert Cutler -----1.

ABSENT: Council Members Alfred T. Dowe, Jr., Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Sherman P. Lea, Brenda L. McDaniel, Brian J. Wishneff and Mayor C. Nelson Harris -----6.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Darlene L. Burcham, City Manager; William M. Hackworth, City Attorney; and Mary F. Parker, City Clerk.

COUNCIL: In view of the fact that a quorum of the Council was not present at 9:05 a.m., Council Member Cutler declared the meeting in recess to be reconvened at 10:00 a.m., in Room 159, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke

The Council reconvened at 10:00 a.m., in Room 159, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, with Mayor C. Nelson Harris presiding.

PRESENT: Council Members M. Rupert Cutler, Alfred T. Dowe, Jr., Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Brenda L. McDaniel and Mayor C. Nelson Harris-----5.

ABSENT: Council Members Sherman P. Lea and Brian J. Wishneff -----2.

The Mayor declared the existence of a quorum.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Darlene L. Burcham, City Manager; William M. Hackworth, City Attorney; Jesse A. Hall, Director of Finance; and Mary F. Parker, City Clerk.

COUNCIL: A communication from Mayor C. Nelson Harris requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss vacancies on certain authorities, boards, commissions and committees appointed by Council, pursuant to §2.2-3711 (A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, was before the body.

Council Member Cutler moved that Council concur in the request of the Mayor to convene in Closed Meeting as abovedescribed. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Fitzpatrick, Dowe, McDaniel and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS: None -----0.

(Council Members Lea and Wishneff were absent.)

ITEMS LISTED ON THE 2:00 P. M., COUNCIL DOCKET REQUIRING DISCUSSION/CLARIFICATION, AND ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE 2:00 P. M., AGENDA:

STADIUM-SCHOOLS: Council Member Cutler inquired as to how public comments will be handled with regard to the Victory Stadium issue which is included on the Council's 2:00 p.m. docket. Mayor Harris responded that each speaker will be allotted three minutes; an announcement will be made at the beginning of the Council meeting that an issue will be discussed, and no personal remarks and/or attacks on the Members of Council, City staff or the School Board will be allowed; a police officer will be on duty in the Council Chamber; if any person violates the procedure, their remarks will be immediately concluded and they will be requested to leave the lectern, and if they refuse to cooperate, the police officer will be instructed to escort the individual from the Council Chamber.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION BY THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

Council Member Cutler inquired about the criteria for funding non-profit organizations which was adopted by the Council on Monday, October 17, 2005. He stated that he was not present when the guidelines were adopted and was uncomfortable with the process. He explained that he attended a meeting with representatives of certain non-profit organizations, at which time the City Manager reviewed the process and rationale by which the guidelines were adopted, etc. Although he did not have a problem with the focus, he stated that he did have a problem with the process, and added that the City should avoid making grant application guidelines complicated, particularly for small grants.

The Mayor advised that Dr. Cutler discussed the issue with him, and it was suggested that they meet with the City Manager to process the results of the meeting which was held on Thursday, November 3 with non-profit organizations.

BRIEFINGS:

CRYSTAL SPRING STREETSCAPE: The City Manager called attention to a request submitted by Crystal Spring Avenue businesses for improved parking and certain other aesthetic improvements to the streetscape. She advised that the firm of Anderson and Associates, Inc., was engaged to assist with the project; whereupon, she called upon Kenneth H. King, Director, Streets and Traffic; and Brad Ball, Project Manager, Anderson and Associates, Inc., to present tentative plans and specifications.

Working from the Master Plan, Crystal Spring Village Center, Mr. King presented the following overview of the conceptual plan:

- The project will be limited to Crystal Spring Avenue and Rosalind Avenue between 22nd and 23rd Streets, S. W. Improvements along Crystal Spring Avenue will consist of 45 degree angled parking. The project will include new sidewalk along Crystal Spring Avenue (plain sidewalk without brick borders,) new curb for the entire length of the west side of the block, and resurfacing of both Crystal Spring and Richelieu Avenues. Patterned crosswalks will be incorporated across Crystal Spring and Richelieu Avenues on both ends of the block.
- Preliminary discussions with the U. S. Postal Service indicate that mailboxes may be relocated to the south side of 23rd Street, remaining on the east side of the street. Relocating mailboxes will create approximately six additional spaces and additional spaces can be created on the west side of Richelieu Avenue closer to the intersection at 22nd Street.
- Other project features include removal of existing street trees along Crystal Spring Avenue and replacement with trees that are more appropriate for the location. Trees will also be planted in the median between Crystal Spring and Rosalind Avenues. Trash receptacles, benches, and streetlights will be considered as additional amenities in the block.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick expressed appreciation to City staff and to Anderson and Associates for the manner in which the project was presented, which incorporates the "pedestrian sense" that is being promoted throughout the City. He suggested that trees be planted in an island on the east side of the street, similar to those to be located on the west side, to allow for future parking at an angle on the east side of the street.

The City Manager advised that the Mayor previously suggested that a piece of public art be located in the area, with plantings, as well as along the major gateways into the City.

Council Member Dowe inquired about the location of handicapped parking spaces; whereupon, Mr. King advised that the spaces have not been identified, however, some of the angled parking spaces would be designated for handicapped parking. He added that the challenge will be the location of the designated handicapped spaces because the pharmacy is located on one side of the street and the Post Office is located on the opposite side, and designated handicapped parking spaces and ramps will be included in final design review.

Council Member Dowe inquired if some of the remaining parking spaces would be used by patrons of other restaurants in the area, and suggested that the sidewalk be made as "handicapped friendly" as possible since there is no signal at the intersection, or a four way stop sign.

Mr. King called attention to a potential four way stop sign at the intersection, replacement of the sidewalk and installation of decorative treatments. He stated that the challenge is, where should the improvements end, while attempting to be responsive those issues that have been identified by business owners in the Crystal Spring Avenue area.

Following completion of the project, Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick suggested that parking behind the buildings be redesigned, because a significant amount of parking space is not well organized and could be integrated into one lot that could be used for additional parking. He added that the alleys would also provide access from both 22nd and 23rd Streets.

There being no further discussion, the Mayor expressed appreciation to Mr. King for the presentation.

SIX-YEAR IMPROVEMENT PLAN-VDOT: The City Manager called attention to the VDOT-Six-Year Improvement Plan which is included on the Council's 2:00 p.m. agenda; whereupon, Kenneth H. King, Director, Streets and Traffic, presented the following briefing:

The transportation project development process starts with a long-range transportation plan, which is a 20-year planning document that was adopted by Council approximately two years ago.

The Transportation Plan was updated approximately three - four years ago. The updated 2006 Plan, which is administered by the Metropolitan Planning Organization, will broaden the list of the City's transportation projects and projects that need to be identified to implement improvements.

The following projects have been funded through the Six-Year Improvement Program:

- Tenth Street from Orange Avenue to Williamson Road
- 13th Street from Jamison Avenue and Bullitt Avenue, north of Dale Avenue, to Orange Avenue off of Hollins Road
- Wonju Street, a \$21 million project, which has dramatically changed direction in terms of the financial perspective and once the new estimate is completed, funds will be available through programs from other projects. Funds will not be available until fiscal year 2006, and the City will redirect between \$15 - \$18 million of funds next year.
- Smaller projects such as Riverland Road, Bennington Street, Mount Pleasant Boulevard and other small intersection projects.

Mr. King reviewed the following additions to the Six Year Plan:

- Campbell Avenue from Williamson Road to Norfolk Avenue, in conjunction with the 13th Street project.
- Colonial Avenue from Brandon Avenue, Winding Way Road. Reconstruct the existing roadway from Brandon Avenue to Winding Way Road to include sidewalk, curb and gutter, drainage, and bike lanes. Improvements are intended to tie into the TSM Alternative of the Wonju Street project.
- Elm Avenue from Jefferson Street to 6th Street. Corridor improvements will enhance interchange operations, increase left turn storage and improve signals.
- Norfolk Avenue from Campbell Avenue to Wise Avenue. The project is in conjunction with the 13th Street project.

- Orange Avenue from 11th Street to Gus Nicks Boulevard.
- Intersection and miscellaneous spot improvements - candidate locations: Orange Avenue and King Street, Peters Creek Road and Cove Road, Orange Avenue and Williamson Road, Hershberger Road and Williamson Road, Hershberger Road and Ordway Drive, and Wasena Bridge spot improvement. Isolated improvements, additional turn lanes, geometric improvements, and other spot improvements. The intersection of Orange Avenue and King Street has been identified as a priority by Council.
- Mobility and accessibility improvements - Hershberger Road Corridor improvements - Cove Road - Williamson Road. Install pedestrian and bicycle accommodations (sidewalks or shared-use path), resurface roadway, and add landscaping improvements.
- Signal and ITS improvements - traffic signal and ITS upgrades to include new LED signal heads, interconnection and coordination.
- Transit Improvements - Flex funds for transit infrastructure construction and maintenance to include sidewalks, benches and shelters. Surface transportation funds will be flexed over to support bus shelters, bus pullouts, downtown circulator, and other transit enhancements.

Council Member Cutler inquired about the relationship between VDOT's Six-Year Improvement Program and bikeway and greenway plans; whereupon, Mr. King advised that they will fall under the umbrella of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Long Range Transportation Plan, as well as City departmental plans that are prepared as a part of the City's budget, such as Strategic Business Plans.

He noted that staff recommendations with regard to pedestrian or bike amenities, greenways etc., required action by Council and received input from the City's Planning department, Transportation Division, Parks and Recreation and the Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission.

With regard to neighborhoods, Council Member Cutler inquired about GIS layers that show greenways and bikeways; whereupon, Mr. King advised that the City has the capability to identify a particular neighborhood, but he was not certain if the GIS system could identify greenways, bikeways, etc. in a particular neighborhood. He added that the matter will be discussed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

From an economic development standpoint, Council Member Cutler inquired as to what is available for employees with regard to various ways to access their work place, i.e.: hiking, biking, etc. The City Manager responded that the neighborhood portal located on the GIS system shows all parks, schools, etc., and staff would study Dr. Cutler's inquiry and respond accordingly.

Council Member McDaniel inquired about the process of determining intersections and miscellaneous spotting improvements; whereupon, Mr. King advised that VDOT's typical model of programming a project is to widen a street from point A to point B and approximately ten years later, the City moves on to the engineering piece; and if the City attempted to complete small scale intersection projects under the same model, it would take approximately six years for completion. Therefore, he indicated that the City's goal is to work with VDOT to identify an intersection categorical area, which are intersection and miscellaneous spotting improvements, and to earmark funds in a six-year fiscal document that will allow the City to advance the project at a much shorter period of time.

With regard to the intersection at Towne Square, Mr. King advised that Council appropriated funds to advance the project, and granted approval for additional funds from the State. He added that the City has also partnered with the local business community to advance the project.

The City Manager advised that construction advertisement for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., project will take place in January 2006.

Council Member Cutler commended Rolanda Russell, Assistant City Manager for Community Development, for her leadership in chairing the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Bridge Advisory Committee.

With regard to signage located at Exit 6 on I-581/Route 220 South, Council Member Dowe suggested that directions to downtown Roanoke be included on the sign directing traffic to Elm Avenue and the Town of Vinton. He also requested that signs be erected to identify traffic exiting on Colonial Avenue from the shoulder of the road during rush hour. Mr. King stated that the Director of Public Works will discuss the requests with VDOT and submit further report to the Council.

There being no further discussion, the Mayor expressed appreciation for the briefing.

BUILDING PERMIT FEE SCHEDULE: Karl Kooler, Building Commissioner, highlighted the following:

2003 Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC)

- Adoption is set for November 16, 2005
- Three Parts
- Part I - Construction Code
- Part II - Existing Buildings Code
- Part III - Maintenance of Existing Structures
- Technical References are the 2003 International Family of Codes
- Part II - International Existing Building Code (Rehab Code) is new

Multiple vs. Combination Permits

- Multiple Permits
 - Basic Development
 - Plan Review
 - Temp electrical
 - Building
 - Electrical
 - Plumbing
 - HVAC
 - Gas
 - Fire Suppression
 - Fire Alarm
 - Utility
 - CO
- Combination Permit
 - Combination

Benefits of Combination Permit

- More customer friendly - one visit to City Hall. The *1-Stop Shop*
- All information related to the project in one place
 - Reviews
 - Approvals
 - Conditions
 - Inspections
 - Correspondence
- Easier to determine permit and review fees
- Contractor benefits more from the declining rate scale
- Easier to avoid delays in closing out a project by coordinating all final requirements

\$150,000.00 Single Family Residence

- \$800,000.00 - Roanoke existing and City of Richmond
- \$700,000.00 - City of Portsmouth (slightly over), City of Norfolk (slightly under) and the average
- \$600,000.00 - Roanoke proposed, (slightly over) City of Lynchburg (slightly over), City of Newport News (slightly over), and City of Hampton

\$1,000.00 Commercial

- \$7,000.00 - City of Richmond
- \$4,000.00 - Roanoke existing (slightly over), City of Newport News (slightly over) and average (slightly below)
- \$3,000.00 - Roanoke proposed (slightly over), City of Lynchburg, City of Norfolk (slightly over), City of Hampton
- \$2,000.00 - City of Portsmouth (slightly over \$2,000.00)

Fee Comparison - Virginia First Cities

Jurisdiction	\$150,000.00 Residential	\$300,000.00 Residential	\$150,000.00 Commercial	\$1,000,000.00 Commercial	\$5,000,000.00 Commercial
Roanoke - Existing	\$820.00	\$1,520.00	\$820.00	\$4,320.00	\$16,320.00
Roanoke - Proposed	\$665.00	\$1,174.00	\$665.00	\$3,324.00	\$15,234.00
Lynchburg	\$671.00	\$1,166.00	\$671.00	\$2,926.00	\$12,824.00
Newport News	\$650.00	\$1,200.00	\$660.00	\$4,400.00	\$22,015.00
Norfolk	\$685.00	\$1,101.00	\$795.00	\$3,514.00	\$17,580.00
Portsmouth	\$745.00	\$1,065.00	\$810.00	\$2,600.00	\$20,225.00
Richmond	\$804.00	\$1,567.00	\$1,156.00	\$7,210.00	\$35,700.00
Hampton	\$640.00	\$1,230.00	\$725.00	\$3,326.00	\$19,100.00
Average (Does not include Roanoke Existing)	\$694.00	\$1,215.00	\$783.00	\$3,900.00	\$20,382.00

Revenue Impact

- FY04 - 05 Revenue \$1,063,000.00
- Recommended adjustments to the fee schedule will impact revenues an estimated (-4.78%)
- Projected revenue decrease is approximately \$50,800.00
- Actual permit revenue (FY04-05) was approximately 29% higher than budget projections
- FY '05-06 is continuing the current level of activity

Proposed Permit Fees

Type Permit	Total Valuation	Fee
	\$0.01 to \$1,000.00	\$45.00
Combination Building Electrical	\$1,000.01 to \$50,000.00	\$45.00 for the first \$1,000.00 plus \$5.00 each additional thousand or fraction thereof, to and including \$50,000.00
Plumbing Mechanical	\$50,000.01 to \$100,000.00	\$290.00 for the first \$50,000.00 plus \$4.00 for each additional thousand or fraction thereof, to and including \$50,000.00
Gas Elevator Tanks	\$100,000.01 to \$250,000.00	\$490,000.00 for the first \$100,000.00 plus \$3.50 for each additional thousand or fraction thereof, to and including \$250,000.00
Fire Suppression Alarm Systems Demolition	\$250,000.01 to \$500,000.00	\$1,015.00 for the first \$250,000.00 plus \$3.25 for each additional thousand or fraction thereof, to and including \$500,000.00
Utility	\$500,000.01 and up	\$1,827.50 for the first \$500,000.00 plus \$3.00 for each additional thousand

Mr. Kooler advised that the City of Roanoke will move from a multiple fee system to a combination permit system at no additional cost. He further advised that when the fee schedule for permits was compared to other Virginia First Cities, the City of Roanoke ranked high. He added that the process will be simplified and permit fees will decrease; overall impact will be approximately a 4¾ per cent reduction in permit fees over a period of one year and it is anticipated that the City will receive approximately \$50,000.00 per year in revenue.

Council Member McDaniel inquired if the proposed permit system will add any extra burden on the general contractor; whereupon, the Building Commissioner stated that the general contractor is not required to list specialized contractors working on a project, such as mechanical and plumbing, etc., and the general contractor will be aware of the total cost of the project to be performed.

There being no further questions or comments, the Mayor expressed appreciation to Mr. Kooler for the briefing.

BRANDING UPDATE: The City Manager advised that Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and Council Member McDaniel have served on a steering committee with City staff with regard to the City's branding efforts; whereupon, Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick reviewed the following information:

Tagline Research

- For the past year, the City's Branding Committee has researched and discussed the use of a tagline to accompany Roanoke's brand. At the request of the branding committee, local and national market research was conducted on three possible taglines: *Mountains of Possibility*, *Elevation: Unlimited*, and *Opportunities on the Rise*.
- Research results showed that of the three, *Mountains of Possibility* tested highest, citing that it best matched Roanoke's image and positioning statement. After considering the results, the Branding Committee discussed whether the City should move forward with the recommendation, select multiple taglines for different uses, or opt not to use a tagline at all. At present, the committee has decided to wait until a future time to address the adoption of an official tagline.
- The committee is open, however, to the possibility of using temporary taglines. For marketing purposes, there is an opportunity to use taglines for special initiatives (ex. using "Opportunities on the Rise" for business relocation or for housing; and "Mountains of Possibility" for tourism or recreation).

- The committee is open to the possibility of using temporary taglines. For marketing purposes, there is an opportunity to use taglines for special initiatives (ex. using ‘Opportunities on the Rise’ for business relocation or for housing; and “Mountains of Possibility” for tourism or recreation).
- In addition, interchangeable taglines could be used for new City signage and during special events. Examples were submitted on how the three could be paired with the Roanoke brand.

City Wide Branding

- The City is continuing to apply the brand throughout Roanoke. Variations of the brand will be used for new parking garage signs.
- The City is currently working with firms to develop gateway signs that would replace the wooden Welcome to Roanoke signs, as well as an updated wayfinding sign system.
- Other applications underway for the logo include the new City limit signs, and new branding flags at The Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center, the Civic Center, and City fire stations.
- Fire-EMS vehicles and police patrol cars and bicycles now have logo decals. A schedule is underway to place the brand on all vehicles in the City’s fleet.
- A downtown banners committee has evaluated logistics of placing logo banners in the downtown area. Additionally, the City is developing strategies for external marketing of the City, as well as looking at the use of the brand versus the Roanoke City Seal.
- Staff from the Branding Committee and the Office of Communications will respond to questions regarding use of the brand, as well as any additional plans for marketing and advertising of Roanoke.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick advised that the Branding Committee is requesting Council’s approval to continue a study of the three potential taglines, and positive reviews have been received regarding the new logo. He added that he, along with Council Member McDaniel, will work with City staff to implement the logo.

Mayor Harris suggested that the Branding Committee consider taglines that will highlight successes by the City at gateway entrances to the City of Roanoke; i.e.: high school championships, etc. Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick also suggested that major activities/events being held in the City of Roanoke be documented, such as the Annual Conference of the Virginia Municipal League.

Council Member Dowe inquired about a tagline that could be installed in the Council Chamber behind the dais; whereupon, Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick advised that the City Seal should be replaced with the branding logo. He added that the seal is the official Seal of the City of Roanoke and the brand is a progressive image.

The City Manager advised that when the City first converted to use of the branding logo approximately three years ago, staff made the decision to implement the logo gradually; and staff did not address Council related issues, such as the Council's stationary/letterhead. She stated that the Branding Committee has discussed changing the City Seal to resemble the newer image, however, the Committee has chosen not to address the issue at the present time. She called attention to research that has been conducted in other Virginia communities that previously changed their City Seals and upgraded to a more futuristic approach of the logo, which revealed that one-half of the localities that were surveyed elected to retain their official City Seal; and the decision is a Council issue as to when the Council might wish to change from the City Seal to the branding logo. She reiterated that no steps have been taken to change the Council's letterhead, the City Seal, or the image behind the dais in the Council Chamber; however, new logo flags are now being flown at all of the fire stations, many City departments display the new flag, and the new flag is currently being flown in the front and to the rear of The Hotel Roanoke, as opposed to the official City Seal Flag.

Council Member Cutler spoke in support of modernizing the City's official Seal. He also spoke in support of assisting service clubs by posting meeting dates, times and locations on the City's website in an effort to establish a partnership with the service organizations.

The City Manager advised that City representatives are working with various groups to replace the wooden "Welcome to Roanoke" signs at gateway entrances to the City, and the comments made by Council Members involving interchangeable signs will be reviewed by the Branding Committee.

At 11:40 a.m., the Mayor declared the Council meeting in recess for one closed session.

At 11:50 a.m., the Council meeting reconvened in the City Council Chamber, with Mayor Harris residing and all Members of the Council in attendance, except Council Members Lea and Wishneff.

COUNCIL: With respect to the Closed Session just concluded, Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved that each Member of City Council certify to the best of his or her knowledge that: (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in any motion by which any Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered by City Council. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dowe and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, McDaniel and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS: None-----0.

(Council Members Lea and Wishneff were absent.)

OATHS OF OFFICE-COMMITTEES-TOWING ADVISORY BOARD: The Mayor advised that there is a vacancy on the Towing Advisory Board, created by expiration of the term of office of Christine Profitt; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations to fill the vacancy.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick placed in nomination the name of Phyllis A. Johnson.

There being no further nominations, Ms. Johnson was appointed as a member of the Towing Advisory Board, for a term ending June 30, 2008, by the following vote:

FOR MS. JOHNSON: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, McDaniel and Mayor Harris-----5.

(Council Members Lea and Wishneff were absent.)

OATHS OF OFFICE-COMMITTEES-ROANOKE CIVIC CENTER: The Mayor advised that there is a vacancy on the Roanoke Civic Center Commission, created by expiration of the term of office of Monica S. Jones; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations to fill the vacancy.

Council Member Dowe placed in nomination the name of John W. Elliott, Jr.

There being no further nominations, Mr. Elliott was appointed as a member of the Roanoke Civic Center Commission, for a term ending September 30, 2008, by the following vote:

FOR MR. ELLIOTT: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, McDaniel and Mayor Harris-----5.

(Council Members Lea and Wishneff were absent.)

OATHS OF OFFICE-COMMITTEES-ROANOKE ARTS COMMISSION: The Mayor advised that there is a vacancy on the Roanoke Arts Commission, created by the resignation of Mark C. McConnel; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations to fill the vacancy.

Council Member Cutler placed in nomination the name of Edward W. Barnett.

There being no further nominations, Mr. Barnett was appointed as a member of the Roanoke Arts Commission to fill the unexpired term of Mark C. McConnel resigned, ending June 30, 2007, by the following vote:

FOR MR. BARNETT: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, McDaniel and Mayor Harris-----5.

(Council Members Lea and Wishneff were absent.)

At 11:55 a.m., the Mayor declared the Council meeting in recess until 2:00 p.m., in the City Council Chamber, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke.

At 2:00 p.m., on Monday, November 7, 2005, the Council meeting reconvened in the City Council Chamber, Room 450, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, with Mayor C. Nelson Harris presiding.

PRESENT: Council Members M. Rupert Cutler, Alfred T. Dowe, Jr., Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Sherman P. Lea, Brenda L. McDaniel, Brian J. Wishneff and Mayor C. Nelson Harris-----7.

ABSENT: None-----0.

The Mayor declared the existence of a quorum.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Darlene L. Burcham, City Manager; William M. Hackworth, City Attorney; Jesse A. Hall, Director of Finance; and Mary F. Parker, City Clerk.

The invocation was delivered by Council Member Alfred T. Dowe, Jr.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mayor Harris.

PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

COMMUNITY PLANNING-DECEASED PERSONS: Council Member Cutler offered the following resolution memorializing the late Jack Ronald "John" Marlles, former Director of the Department of Planning and Community Development:

(#37228-110705) A RESOLUTION memorializing the late Jack Ronald "John" Marlles, former Director of the Department of Planning and Community Development for the City of Roanoke.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, Page 41.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Resolution No. 37228-110705. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----7.

NAYS: None-----0.

The Mayor called for a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Marlles and presented a ceremonial copy of the above referenced resolution to Mrs. Marlles.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Mayor advised that all matters listed under the Consent Agenda were considered to be routine by the Members of Council and would be enacted by one motion in the form, or forms, listed on the Consent Agenda, and if discussion was desired, the item would be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

MINUTES: Minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on Monday, September 19, 2005, were before the body.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with and that the minutes be approved as recorded. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dowe and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----7.

NAYS: None-----0.

AUDIT COMMITTEE: Minutes of a meeting of the Audit Committee which was held on Monday, October 3, 2005, were before the body.

Topics of discussion included: Audit Findings Follow Up, Police Department Cash Funds, Sheriff's Canteen Fund and Jail Inmate Fund, Audit Committee Annual Report - June 30, 2005, Municipal Auditing Annual Report - June 30, 2005, N.A.L.G.A. Peer Review of City of Roanoke Municipal Auditing, and Letter from the Auditor of Public Accounts.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved that the minutes of the Audit Committee be received and filed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dowe and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----7.

NAYS: None-----0.

COMMITTEES-HOUSING/AUTHORITY: A communication from John P. Baker, Executive Director, Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority, advising of the resignation of Mornique E. Smith as a member of the Board of Commissioners, effective September 4, 2005, was before Council.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved that the resignation be accepted and that the communication be received and filed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dowe and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----7.

NAYS: None-----0.

OATHS OF OFFICE-COMMITTEES-HOUSING/AUTHORITY-ROANOKE CIVIC CENTER-INDUSTRIES-SCHOOLS-VIRGINIA'S FIRST REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL FACILITY AUTHORITY: A report of qualification of the following persons, was before Council:

Paul P. Anderson and Brownie E. Polly as members of the Roanoke Civic Center Commission, for terms ending September 30, 2008;

R. Brian Townsend as a City of Roanoke representative to Virginia's First Regional Industrial Facility Authority, to fill the unexpired term of Elizabeth Neu, ending June 30, 2006;

Jason E. Bingham as a Trustee of the Roanoke City School Board, to fill the unexpired term of Gloria P. Manns, resigned, ending June 30, 2006; and

Stuart H. Revercomb as a Director of the Industrial Development Authority, for a term commencing October 21, 2005 and ending October 20, 2009.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved that the report of qualification be received and filed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dowe and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----7.

NAYS: None-----0.

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: NONE.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFINGS: NONE.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

HEALTH DEPARTMENT-BUDGET-GRANTS: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that in 2001, Roanoke Fire-EMS was awarded the "Get Alarmed, Virginia!" Grant, which is a State-secured Federal grant from the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Virginia Department of Health; the Get Alarmed, Virginia! Program has been credited with saving the lives of more than 66 men, women and children across the Commonwealth of Virginia and also is credited with preventing millions of dollars in property loss; according to the National Safe Kids Campaign, every dollar spent on a smoke alarm, prevents \$21.00 worth of loss, which is a 2,100 per cent return on investment; and the grant provides smoke detectors to fire departments and other local agencies to disperse to citizens in need.

It was further advised that in September, 2005, Roanoke Fire-EMS was once again awarded the Get Alarmed, Virginia! Grant; the program focuses on installing smoke detectors in the homes of families that have children under the age of five and in homes where elderly residents over the age of 65 reside, because these age groups are more likely to die in a house fire; this year, the grant is focusing not only on fire prevention, but on fall prevention for the elderly; the grant will provide the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department with: 3,000 smoke detectors with ten-year lithium batteries, bath mats, night lights, oven mitts, educational brochures covering fall and fire prevention and grant funds totaling \$15,000.00; and grant funds are reimbursable; i.e.: Roanoke Fire-EMS will pay for needed items to implement the program (ex: ladders, drills, salaries, other educational material and media promotion) and will be reimbursed by grant funds.

The City Manager recommended that Council accept the grant award and that she be authorized to execute the required grant agreement, contract and any other related documents, to be approved as to form by the City Attorney; and that Council adopt a budget ordinance establishing a revenue estimate in the amount of \$15,000.00 and appropriate funds in the same amount to accounts to be established by the Director of Finance in the Grant Fund.

Council Member Dowe offered the following budget ordinance:

(#37229-110705) AN ORDINANCE appropriating funds for the Get Alarmed, Virginia! Grant, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2005-2006 Grant Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, page 43.)

Council Member Dowe moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37229-110705. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----7.

NAYS: None-----0.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick offered the following resolution:

(#37230-110705) A RESOLUTION authorizing the acceptance of the Get Alarmed, Virginia! Grant from the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Virginia Department of Health, and authorizing execution of any required documentation on behalf of the City.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, page 44.)

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved the adopted of Resolution No. 37230-110705. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dowe and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----7.

NAYS: None-----0.

STATE HIGHWAYS: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has advised the City of Roanoke that funds are projected to be available for programming new projects in the FY 2007-2012 Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP); the projection is based upon the funding status of projects in the current SYIP; current SYIP projects including 10th Street Improvements, the Wonju Street Extension project, and Hollins Road/13th Street extension are now fully funded projects, or will be fully funded in FY 2007; and projected available funding to the City of Roanoke over the next six year period is \$23,694,000.00.

It was further advised that the Virginia Department of Transportation requires a Council resolution documenting the City's support of projects in advance of placing the projects in the SYIP; projects proposed for addition to the SYIP must be included in the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP,) which Council previously approved on October 23, 2003; based upon public comments during preparation of the LRTP and the SYIP, identified transportation needs, and projected funding, the following projects are recommended for addition to the FY2007-2012 Six-Year Improvement Program:

- Campbell Avenue
- Colonial Avenue
- Elm Avenue
- Norfolk Avenue
- Orange Avenue
- Intersection and Miscellaneous Spot Improvements
- Mobility and Accessibility Improvements
- Signal & ITS Improvements
- Transit Improvements

It was noted the City's request to add projects to the SYIP must be submitted to VDOT no later than December 1, 2005; VDOT will consider the request and submit a recommendation to the Commonwealth Transportation Board; the Board is expected to take action on the request in the spring of 2006 and the final SYIP should be announced in the summer of 2006; provisions of the SYIP require the City to provide a local match representing two per cent of

total project costs; two per cent of the \$23,694,000.00 program cost is \$473,880.00, which will be required over the six year period; and funds totaling \$310,000.00 are budgeted annually by the City for transportation needs and will be adequate to cover the required local match.

The City Manager recommended that Council adopt a resolution in support of the addition of the abovereferenced projects to the FY2007-2012 Six-Year Improvement Program.

Council Member Dowe offered the following resolution:

(#37231-110705) A RESOLUTION concurring in the programming of new projects in the City of Roanoke's Six-Year Improvement Program FY2007 - 2012 ("SYIP").

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, page 44.)

Council Member Dowe moved the adoption of Resolution No. 37231-110705. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick.

Mr. Chris H. Craft, 1501 East Gate Avenue, N. E., commended the City of Roanoke on the widening of Orange Avenue from 12th Street to Gus Nicks Boulevard, N. E.; however, he stated that there is a need to look at the corner of Gus Nicks Boulevard and King Street where traffic backs up. He asked that the intersection be included in the City's Six-Year Transportation Plan, or that short term measures be implemented to alleviate traffic congestion.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 37231-110705 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----7.

NAYS: None-----0.

CITY CODE-HOUSING/AUTHORITY: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that on March 1, 2004, Council amended and reordained Division 1, Generally, and Division 2, Fair Housing Board, Article III, Fair Housing Administration, Chapter 16, Human Rights, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, by adding certain definitions and certain sections to effect amendments to the City's Fair Housing Ordinance, in order to be consistent with current Federal and State Fair Housing regulations, and to revise responsibilities of the Fair Housing Board.

It was further advised that since the City's Fair Housing ordinance was first enacted in March 1973, prior to enactment of Federal and State Fair Housing regulations, age was recognized as a protected class in the City; and while Federal and State regulations do not recognize age as a protected class (both Federal and State Fair Housing regulations include "elderliness" as a protected class which applies to anyone over 55 years of age), the City of Roanoke opted to retain age and include "elderliness" as protected classes during a recent amendment of the ordinance.

It was explained that housing for older persons is specifically allowed under Federal and State Fair Housing regulations; however, inclusion and retention of "age" as a protected class in the City's Fair Housing Ordinance unintentionally prohibits the establishment of housing communities for older persons in the City; while recent amendment to the City's Fair Housing Ordinance included addition of a definition for "housing for older persons" that was consistent with Federal and State definitions, the definition was included because State and Federal regulations recognize "housing for older persons" as a permitted exception to "familial status"; familial status is a protected class which prohibits housing discrimination against persons with children under the age of 18 and was added to the City's ordinance during the recent amendment; inclusion of the definition by itself in the City's ordinance is not sufficient to indicate the allowance of housing for older persons in the City; and the Fair Housing Board recommends that the City's Fair Housing Ordinance be further amended to allow for "housing for older persons", in accordance with Federal and State regulations.

The City Manager recommended that Council adopt an ordinance amending Section 16-152, "Exceptions from article", Division 1, Generally, Article III, Fair Housing Administration, Chapter 16, Human Rights, of The Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, by the addition of a provision to allow housing for older persons in accordance with State and Federal law.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick offered the following ordinance:

(#37232-110705) AN ORDINANCE amending Section 16-152, Exceptions from article, of Division 1, Generally, of Article III, Fair Housing Administration, of Chapter 16, Human Rights, of the Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, by the addition of subsection (8), to clarify that housing specifically for older persons is permitted in the City, in accordance with State and Federal laws; and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, page 45.)

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37232-110705. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dowe and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----7.

NAYS: None-----0.

BUILDINGS/BUILDING DEPARTMENT-FEE COMPENDIUM: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that the City's Fee Compendium, as maintained by the Director of Finance, was authorized and approved by Council, pursuant to Resolution No. 32412-032795, adopted on March 27, 1995; and the Fee Compendium is the basis for fees charged for all construction-related permits issued through the Building Inspections Division of the Department of Planning Building and Economic Development.

It was further advised that the Building Inspections Division currently uses a multiple permit system in which each trade involved in a building project obtains a separate permit for its portion of the work; the Building Inspections Division is recommending adoption of a combination permit system to replace the system currently in existence to allow one all-inclusive permit to be issued for each project; an all-inclusive permit will streamline the permitting process and improve the ability to monitor a project; as a part of the change, adjustments are recommended to Building Inspections Fees as outlined in a fee schedule; the net effect of changes in fees will result in a decrease of 4.75 per cent in building-related fees; and it should be noted that fiscal year 2006 building inspection-related revenues are still projected to meet their revenue estimates due to the positive volume of permits which will offset fee decreases.

The City Manager recommended that Council adopt a resolution amending Building Inspections Fees.

Council Member Cutler offered the following resolution:

(#37233-110705) A RESOLUTION amending and adding certain fees and charges with regard to building inspections division permit fees, amending the Fee Compendium, and providing for an effective date.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, page 46.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Resolution No. 37233-110705. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----7.

NAYS: None-----0.

SPECIAL PERMITS-DOWNTOWN ROANOKE, INCORPORATED: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that the City of Roanoke has been approached by a private carriage company to facilitate a horse-drawn carriage service for the downtown area; and Downtown Roanoke, Inc. (DRI) has met with the vender and supports establishment of the service which can help draw visitors to the downtown area and provide a value added experience.

It was further advised that an ordinance was drafted that will provide control and structure for carriage operators; included in the ordinance is a permit fee structure of \$45.00 to operate a horse-drawn vehicle business and \$20.00 for a horse-drawn vehicle operator's business; the area for normal carriage operations will be bordered by Salem Avenue on the north, Third Street on the west, Church Avenue on the south and Williamson Road on the east; and there may be occasion when operating outside the normal geographical area is permissible to facilitate special events or requests, for example, at The Hotel Roanoke and surrounding area.

The City Manager recommended that Council adopt an ordinance to permit and to provide oversight of a horse-drawn vehicle service in the downtown area of the City of Roanoke.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick offered the following ordinance:

(#37234-110705) AN ORDINANCE amending and reordaining the Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, by adding a new Article IV, Horse-Drawn Vehicles, to Chapter 34, Vehicles for Hire; and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, page 49.)

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37234-110705. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dowe.

Richard Ferron, operator of the private carriage company, appeared before Council in support of the request.

There being no questions or comments, Ordinance No. 37234-110705 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----7.

NAYS: None-----0.

POLICE DEPARTMENT-BUILDINGS/BUILDING DEPARTMENT-BUDGET: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that on February 13, 2003, the City of Roanoke executed a Contract with Cederquist Rodriguez Ripley, P.C., d/b/a Rodriguez Ripley Maddux Motley (Architect) for design and construction administration for the Police Building, Phase II; a construction contract was awarded to J. M. Turner & Company, Incorporated (Contractor), on June 29, 2004, with a Notice to Proceed date of August 16, 2004, and a completion date of October 10, 2005; the contractor has requested two time extensions, and the City has granted a total of 27 consecutive days, which extended the completion date to November 6, 2005; however, additional time to complete the project will be needed which requires additional construction administration services; an amendment to the architect's contract is necessary to pay for additional services which are anticipated to be no more than \$40,000.00, based on rates in the base contract; and total anticipated architectural/engineering fee is within a reasonable range of eight – nine per cent of total construction cost.

It was further advised that Council was previously informed of early changes to the project which led to an increase in the construction budget and required additional services from the architect which were provided for in two amendments; the two amendments increased the architect's contract by \$74,571.80, or 21.6 per cent of the original fee of \$345,000.00; several other minor amendments to the architect's contract have been approved; and authorization by Council is needed to fund the abovereferenced additional services inasmuch as additional services, when combined with prior amendments, will exceed 25 per cent of the original contract amount.

It was explained that City staff is negotiating with the contractor to define the additional time necessary to complete the project and to determine if credits and/or liquidated damages are due from the contractor to the City; it is anticipated that the City of Roanoke will realize some amount of credits or liquidated damages from the negotiations and any such amounts would offset the additional architectural/engineering construction phase services; and funding is available in Account No. 008-530-9567, "Police Building Design - Phase II", to fund the proposed amendments.

The City Manager recommended that she be authorized to execute additional amendments to the City's contract with Cederquist Rodriguez Ripley, P.C., d/b/a Rodriguez Ripley Maddux Motley (Architect), not to exceed \$40,000.00, for additional professional services needed to complete the Police Building, Phase II Project.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick offered the following resolution:

(#37235-110507) A RESOLUTION authorizing the City Manager's issuance and execution of additional Amendments to the City's contract with Cederquist Rodriguez Ripley, P.C., d/b/a Rodriguez Ripley Maddux Motley for additional professional services for the Police Building, Phase II Project.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, page 55.)

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved the adoption of Resolution No. 37235-110705. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dowe and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----7.

NAYS: None-----0.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE:

AUDITS/FINANCIAL REPORTS: The Director of Finance submitted the Financial Report for the month of September 2005.

(For full text, see Financial Report on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

There being no questions or comments and without objection by Council, the Mayor advised that the Financial Report for the month of September would be received and filed.

POLICE DEPARTMENT-BUDGET-GRANTS: The Director of Finance submitted a written report advising that a budget ordinance adopted by Council on Monday, October 3, 2005, did not match the accompanying staff report for the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant; therefore, adoption of another budget ordinance by Council is necessary to correct the oversight.

The Director of Finance recommended that Council adopt a budget ordinance appropriating funds in the amount of \$1,900.00 in revenue and expenditure accounts in the Grant Fund.

Council Member Cutler offered the following budget ordinance:

(#37236-110705) AN ORDINANCE appropriating funds for the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2005-2006 Grant Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, page 56.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37236-110705. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dowe and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----7.

NAYS: None-----0.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: NONE.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ZONING-ARMORY/STADIUM-SCHOOLS: Council at a Special Meeting which was held on Tuesday November 1, 2005, at 4:00 p.m., having been briefed on five specific options for Victory Stadium, as developed by Heery International, and Council having agreed to receive public comment at its meeting on Monday, November 7, 2005, the matter is before the body.

The Mayor advised that 56 persons had signed up to speak. He stated that Victory Stadium is a passionate and emotional issue; however, the purpose of the meeting is to discuss an issue and not to discuss people, therefore, personal comments would not be allowed by the Chair if they are directed to the Members of Council, the School Board, the City Manager or the Superintendent of Schools, and any individual making any such comments would be immediately ruled out of order and would not be allowed to complete their comments. He added that he expected the discourse to be civil and becoming of the community, because of the number of persons in attendance, some persons who signed up to speak were directed to Room 159 in the Municipal Building where they were viewing the proceedings via RVTv Channel 3, therefore, he would call several names at one time and requested that speakers begin to make their way to the Council Chamber when their names were called.

Council Member Lea requested a clarification of the Mayor's remarks and inquired if citizens will not be allowed to exercise their first amendment rights to freedom of speech; whereupon, the Mayor clarified that speakers may comment on various positions, but the Chair would not tolerate attacks on the character of individuals and there would be civil discourse throughout the meeting.

Council Member Lea called for a clarification by the City Attorney; whereupon, he advised that the Mayor will chair the meeting and issue rulings; if Members of Council disagree with a ruling by the Chair, they may move to challenge the ruling of the Chair and if a majority of the Council disagrees with the ruling of the Chair, the Mayor would be overruled.

The following persons addressed the Council:

Mr. Andrew S. Boxley, 301 Willow Oak Drive, S. W., spoke as a business person, but primarily as a parent, and encouraged Council to support construction of stadiums at the two high schools for the following reasons: high school stadia are less expensive than any option that was proposed by the Victory Stadium consultant, and high school stadia will provide more opportunities for students and redefine the campus experience at each high school. He stated that a vote by Council in favor of high school stadiums would send a clear signal to future generations that the Council cares about the needs of Roanoke's students and has acted accordingly on their behalf.

Mr. C. Richard Cranwell, 111 Virginia Avenue, Vinton, Virginia, advised that in today's world, government in America is suspect at all levels because citizens believe that they have no control over what goes on in government, and they believe that government leaders do not listen to or respond to their constituency. Having served for 30 years in the Virginia General Assembly, he stated that his experience was that if everyone believed that they had been heard, although they may not agree with a decision, they still believed that the process had not turned its back on them.

Ms. Carol Brash 2259 Westover Avenue, S. W., spoke on behalf of stadia at the two high schools. She stated that she lives within six blocks of Patrick Henry High School, and looks forward to the noise, traffic and excitement that a stadium would bring to the neighborhood. She advised that she serves on the PTSA Board of Directors at Patrick Henry High School and on the Roanoke Central Council PTA, and at a recent meeting of the Central Council PTA, 27 of the 29 schools represented unanimously supported stadia at both high schools. She noted that a cost of \$8.2 million was quoted for the two high school stadiums, which leaves \$6.8 million of the \$15 million that was appropriated for stadia, and suggested that remaining funds be used for renovation of Victory Stadium.

Mr. E. Duane Howard, 1135 Wasena Avenue S. W., advised that all citizens should pause and think about the power they hold with regard to City Council elections in May 2006 because regardless of the Council's vote today, two new high school stadiums cannot be constructed in a few months, Victory Stadium cannot be torn down in a few months, and the City Council May elections cannot be postponed. He stated that the citizens of Roanoke can elect three new persons to City Council who will honor their word and promise to save Victory Stadium.

Mr. Bill McClure, 542 Walnut Avenue, S. W., spoke as the parent of a junior at Patrick Henry High School. He qualified his remarks by stating that he was not against construction of stadia at the two high schools; however, the problem rests with the process that has generated a perception that the desired result was not found in the consultant's report, therefore, it must be changed.

He added that the process generated a public perception that not only were the rules changed, but the game was changed as well, and the process generated the question of what will happen to Victory Stadium. He added that there are numerous issues that have not been publicly addressed, closure is needed, but to change the course at the "11th hour" does not seem to be cautious or prudent. He stated that if Victory Stadium is not addressed in depth, Council will be shirking the responsibilities of office and misleading voters which could be a deciding issue in the political careers of some Council Members.

Ms. Mary C. Pruette, 2914 Carolina Avenue, S. W., a senior at Patrick Henry High School, advised that she and her fellow classmates will not benefit from a school stadium or a new school, however, they felt strongly enough about the issue that approximately 20 students accompanied her to the Council meeting. She added that today's events are unique because Council will vote on constructing two new high school stadia; whereupon, she expressed support for a stadium at Patrick Henry High School for safety reasons, field conditions, and most importantly, school spirit. She stated that safety is an important factor, a stadium at the school site would offer the advantage of locker rooms and shelter in the event of inclement weather, field conditions have not been thoroughly discussed, and whether it be the soccer team playing at River's Edge Sports Complex, or the football team playing at Victory Stadium, or the band performing at Victory Stadium, or lacrosse teams playing on the practice field, Roanoke's field conditions are sub par to its competitors. She added that school spirit has reached an all time high, with a level of excitement and pride due to a new Patrick Henry High School, therefore, there could be no better way to top off existing student pride and excitement than to construct a stadium that will be the focus of athletic achievement. In conclusion, she asked that Council do what is right and best for Roanoke's students of today and tomorrow.

Mr. Robert N. Turcotte, 1890 Arlington Road, S. W., advised that two questions need to be answered: are the right questions being asked and are the right people being listened to. He stated that constructing two high school stadia means that the stadiums will be the right size.

Mr. Nick A. Brash, 2259 Westover Avenue, S. W., spoke in support of construction of stadiums at the two high schools. He stated that he attended high school in a community that had an athletic field on the school campus which helped to increase student pride; and upon graduation from college, he returned to the community and lived within a block and one-half of the same stadium, and attested to the fact that any inconvenience was minor, noise was not an issue and vehicular traffic was manageable. He added that he moved to Roanoke 19 years ago, he considers himself to be a Roanoker with no emotional attachment to Victory Stadium; and he has attended numerous functions at Victory Stadium and has never seen the stadium filled to capacity.

He commended Roanoke's Police Department on the professionalism with which they manage traffic at Patrick Henry High School on a daily basis, and urged that Council objectively review the type of facility that would best serve the needs of the students of the City of Roanoke.

Ms. Helen E. Davis, 35 Patton Avenue, N. E., expressed concern with regard to the Mayor's preliminary instructions to citizens limiting their right to speak. She stated that she has attended City Council meetings for many years and has not witnessed any incident when a citizen was disrespectful. She inquired as to how the Council could ignore an informative and detailed report by a consultant the was hired to study the various options for Victory Stadium when it was clear that Victory Stadium could be renovated for \$13.5 million using Historic Tax Credits; and the stadium could be renovated for not only football, but for the enjoyment all citizens of the Roanoke Valley. She expressed concern with regard to "11th hour" maneuverings, and the possibility of constructing a stadium at each of the two high schools. She advised that stadia at Patrick Henry and William Fleming High Schools would cost \$8.2 million; however, it is strange that the City did not request more clarification as to how the \$8.2 million figure was calculated. She stated that those Council Members who vote in support of constructing a stadium at each high school will have let Roanoke's taxpayers down, and all citizens of Roanoke should have a vote on the fate of Victory Stadium via a public referendum.

Ms. Evelyn D. Bethel, 35 Patton Avenue, N. E., advised that it appears that the Council has gone against the recommendations of the Victory Stadium Study Committee, and the citizens of Roanoke have suffered a disservice because the joint meeting of Council and the School Board which was held on November 3, 2005, to discuss high school stadia was not televised via RVTV Channel 3. She stated that it was mentioned that students at Patrick Henry High School would be able to use the stadium in 2007, but students at William Fleming would not have a stadium until 2010. She took issue with the statement that football fields at each high school would increase the graduation rate, and advised that she was not aware of a football field anywhere that taught anything to a child, and if they were taught by virtue of being on a football field, it was due to the dedication of coaches and teachers. She urged that Council give the teachers the tools they need to teach and give the citizens of Roanoke and the Roanoke Valley a renovated Victory Stadium. She stated that Victory Stadium is an historic building and, if renovated properly, Roanoke's children could be proud to play sports in a newly renovated stadium.

Mr. Ivan Moore, 2219 Carter Road, S. W., spoke in support of stadia at the two high schools, primarily to increase school pride and as a fundraising venture for the booster clubs. He stated that there is not a lot of neighborhood opposition and any concerns can be addressed as a result of meetings with City and School officials. He commended Mayor Harris for taking a stand on the issue of high school stadia, and stated that as a taxpayer, he does not favor using \$22 million plus of taxpayers' dollars to renovate Victory Stadium when

the facility does not have a business plan and lies in a floodplain. He advised that William Fleming High School deserves a stadium, and with the existing infrastructure such as the airport, interstate, restaurants, hotels/motels and shopping malls, it makes sense to construct a high school football stadium at that location which will enable Council to move on to other pressing issues.

Ms. Jackie Gentry, 1819 Warrington Road, S. W., a senior at Patrick Henry High School and President of the Student Government Association, advised that as the student body president, she listens to concerns and opinions of students on a daily basis, most of whom believe that separate stadiums at the two high schools are needed. She stated that separate stadiums will not only remove the inconvenience of driving to Victory Stadium, but raise school spirit, which in turn will lower violence in the schools, motivate students to attend school, and raise the attitude of some students which will lead to better school performance.

Ms. Leslie Hubble, 2424 Lofton Road, S. W., advised that no one has the right to build a stadium without first soliciting input by the residents of the area. She stated that the City of Roanoke should not vote on the issue until all affected residents have been heard, and called attention to the area around Patrick Henry High School that is already plagued by traffic flow issues. She added that if a stadium is constructed, existing problems will be compounded by noise pollution as a result of horns blaring and spectators celebrating after a football game.

Ms. Allyn K. Hughes, 3833 Park Lane, S. W., a senior at Patrick Henry High School, spoke in support of two separate high school stadiums. She stated that on campus stadiums would help the booster clubs to raise funds for school activities, and a school stadium would help to increase school spirit and unite the student body. She encouraged Council to think about not only today's students, but future generations of students.

Mr. John R. Graybill, 2443 Tillett Road, S. W., advised that it appears that the Council has already decided to build stadia at each of the two high schools. He commended Council Members Lea and Wishneff for remaining true to their campaign promise regarding Victory Stadium.

Mr. Daniel C. Webster, 2623 Guilford Avenue, S. W., advised that Victory Stadium was constructed to honor the memory of Roanokers who gave their lives in World War II; however, their memory has already been tarnished due to improper maintenance of the stadium for a number of years and their ultimate sacrifice would be totally dishonored by razing the facility. In the event that Victory Stadium is torn down, he inquired as to what venue the City would offer to its citizens for public concerts, Fourth of July celebrations, Festival in the Park, etc., and how could two smaller remote high school stadiums replace a larger central venue that serves the entire Roanoke Valley as opposed to a select few. He inquired as to the purpose of appointing a citizens committee to

study the question of whether to renovate or rebuild Victory Stadium when, after a year of intense study and fact gathering, the Committee's recommendations were totally disregarded; and based on the Council's response to the Committee's work, why would any citizen even consider serving on a committee in the future knowing that their hard work and recommendations will be dismissed if they do not echo the desired results. He stated that the City funded a \$159,000.00 study by a highly qualified stadium design firm only to disregard their recommendations, and almost immediately thereafter construction estimates were obtained for the two high school stadiums from another source. He inquired if the source of the high school stadia estimate has the same credentials as Heery International, are estimates detailed and available for public review, how will the school system be able to operate the two stadiums when the schools presently lack the necessary resources to maintain existing school facilities, and would the Superintendent of Schools set aside pay increases for presently under paid teachers, or would the school system cut back on funding for much needed basic and instructional materials which are often purchased personally by teachers.

Mr. Al C. Scanlan, 1631 Center Hill Avenue, S. W., advised that for years, if not generations, the question of Victory Stadium has been on the City's agenda; i.e.: renovate the facility, replace it, tear it down, rebuild it, relocate it, etc. He stated that in April, 2005, the final report of the Stadium Study Committee was completed and presented to Council, and subsequently Council obtained an engineering report and set a target budget of \$15 million; it appeared clear that the Mayor and others gave the recommendation of the Stadium Study Committee their full support if estimates came in under budget, and today Council appears to be on the threshold of voting in favor of a plan that was not a part of the recommendations of the Study Committee and will set the entire Victory Stadium question back for many years. He advised that two 2,000 - 3,000 seat high school stadiums will not serve the needs of the total community, and no effort was made to consider the opinions of those persons residing in the specific areas where the stadia are proposed to be located; stadiums appear to be inadequate to meet the needs of the two high schools under certain circumstances; cost of the stadia is not clear; the future of Victory Stadium is unknown; recommendations by the Stadium Study Committee have been ignored; taxpayers spent \$159,000.00 on a consultant's report that is being ignored; future taxpayer liability is unclear; and the citizens of the City of Roanoke want and deserve answers to their questions. He stated that one of the recommendations of the Stadium Study Committee was to sell legacy bricks from Victory Stadium as a fundraiser; whereupon, he offered a check in the amount of \$500.00 for the first purchase of legacy bricks.

Ms. Hannah Updike, 2803 Woodlawn Avenue, S. W., a junior at Patrick Henry High School, advised that two stadiums, one at Patrick Henry and one at William Fleming are a necessity. She called attention to the importance of pride in one's school and advised that two separate stadiums would allow each school to have adequate and safe facilities for home and visiting teams. She asked that surrounding neighborhoods be considered with regard to traffic, light and noise concerns and that Council keep the needs of present and future students at the forefront of deliberations.

Ms. Suzanne Osborne, 1702 Blair Road, S. W., called attention to a vote on May 2, 2005, at which time the Council elected to not consider high school stadiums as an option. She advised that the Stadium Study Committee reported at the same meeting that high school stadiums had been unanimously eliminated as an option, and it was also reported that the School Board was not in favor of any type of facility that would require a maintenance responsibility. She expressed concern that a \$159,000.00 consultant's report that contained rational information with which to make an informed decision on Victory Stadium has been ignored, the recommendations of a citizens committee that spent nine months and diligently pursued the issues with all options on the table has been ignored, and to ignore the voice of a majority of citizens in favor of the special interest of a few citizens is disrespectful, shameful, and an attempt to prevent the public from obtaining accurate information which is needed to make an informed decision on how tax dollars will be spent. She stated that the figure quoted by the Superintendent of Schools that two stadiums could be constructed for \$8.2 million has not been questioned and the Superintendent has given the assurance that the stadia can be constructed without additional funding by the City; however, at the same time, the School Superintendent advises that the school system does not have sufficient manpower or equipment to maintain current school facilities.

Mr. Chris H. Craft, 1501 East Gate Avenue, N. E., advised that during the last Councilmanic election, some Council Members campaigned on the promise that Victory Stadium would be renovated. He stated that the school system should be permitted to use Victory Stadium free of charge which would allow the funds to be used for other school needs, such as teacher pay raises, and the elimination of mobile classrooms, etc. He expressed concern for those residents of the area surrounding Patrick Henry High School who were not given the opportunity to address the issue; therefore, action on the matter should be tabled by Council until there is sufficient input by the Raleigh Court/Grandin Road neighborhoods.

Mr. Winfred Noell, 2743 Northview Drive, S. W., advised that he has followed the Victory Stadium issue for quite some time and he has observed a City administration that manipulates numbers and is not truthful with the citizens.

The Mayor cautioned Mr. Noell that personal comments regarding the Members of Council, the School Board, the City Manager, or the Superintendent of Schools would not be tolerated by the Chair.

Mr. Noell continued his remarks and advised that it appears that the entire Victory Stadium issue has resurfaced, which has the effect after all of the mistakes and maneuvers that occurred during the Orange Avenue stadium/amphitheater issue of planting more seeds of distrust toward leaders of the City.

The Mayor once again requested Mr. Noell address to his remarks to the issue under discussion.

In view of the fact that persons from the audience were making remarks without being recognized by the Chair, the Mayor advised that heckling from the audience would not be tolerated and if such behavior continued, he would declare a recess and ask that Police Officers remove those persons from the Council Chamber. He again asked that persons conduct themselves in a civil manor.

Mr. Noell advised that the issue will be resolved during the Councilmanic election in May 2006, because the events of the past two weeks have been "backroom, good old boy politics at its worst".

Ms. Mary Scanlan, 1631 Center Hill Drive, S. W., expressed concern with regard to the lack of time and information that has been given to those citizens of the areas that will be impacted by the two high school stadiums. She stated that she was opposed to the two high school stadium plan, a stadium is not suitable for the Patrick Henry High School site, nor will the stadium meet the needs of citizens for major events that have become a tradition in Roanoke. She inquired as to why the Council would consider a two stadium plan when there are many unanswered questions, with very little citizen input, and especially after receiving the Heery International report on Victory Stadium options. She stated that as a 30 year Roanoke City elementary school teacher, she would respectfully disagree with the statement that constructing on site stadia at the two high schools would lower student dropout rates, and advised that the dropout rate relates to many factors and not to a building. She advised that the focus should be on meeting the 2005-2006 academic expectations set by the State Board of Education, rather than school stadiums, and the City should stay within the original financial guidelines for a stadium that will meet the needs of the entire community.

Mr. Kit Hale, 2222 Blenheim Road, S. W., advised that as a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals and inasmuch as the issue may come before the Board, he would not speak on the matter. The City Attorney stated that his office is currently researching the issue and inasmuch as Mr. Hale is also an adjacent property owner, he is researching the question of whether it will be necessary for Mr. Hale to disqualify himself from participating if the issue is addressed by the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Ms. Patricia Pruett, 4902 Grandin Road, S. W., commended Council Members Wishneff and Lea on their efforts to save Victory Stadium. She spoke in support of preserving the City's historic landmarks and asked if the lights went out on the star on Mill Mountain, would the City move the star to another location? She stated that the star on Mill Mountain and Victory Stadium represent the same principle and Victory Stadium deserves to be renovated and used by all of Roanoke's citizens.

Mr. Jim Fields, 17 Ridgecrest Road, Hardy, Virginia, advised that he predicted over two years ago that the City would tear down Victory Stadium and give the property to Carilion Health System. He stated that in November 1942, Victory Stadium was dedicated to the memory of World War II veterans and in November 2005, the City could decide on the death of Victory Stadium. He encouraged City leaders to act according to the wishes of those citizens who elected them to office and in compliance with the Victory Stadium consultant's report which indicated that it would be less costly to renovate Victory Stadium. He stated that one solution would be to spend \$5 million on a stadium for William Fleming High School and spend another \$5-7 million dollars to renovate Victory Stadium for use by not only Patrick Henry High School, but all of the citizens of the Roanoke Valley. He called attention to the agreement that was entered into between the City of Roanoke and Norfolk and Western Railway Company which donated the land to the City and stipulations of the agreement provide that the land can only be used for stadium, armory, and park purposes.

Mr. Barton J. Wilner, 2709 Crystal Spring Avenue, S. W., advised that as a business person, whenever he is confronted with various issues, he considers the best interest of his customers; and the number one customer of Victory Stadium is high school athletics, which represents over 90 per cent of the stadium's usage, therefore, it makes sense to seek the preference of the stadium's number one customer. He stated that when asked the question, would you prefer to have your own stadium at your own high school, principles, athletic directors, coaches, parents, students, the Parent Teacher Association, the School Board and school administrators all advised that two high school stadiums would strengthen the school campus, increase school spirit and school pride, increase attendance at events, increase participation in sports, increase usage of the facilities for other sports assemblies/band, strengthen booster involvement and create concession sales, decrease travel expenses, increase safety, strengthen the neighborhoods, increase neighborhood commerce, and provide two first class venues that are used on a regular basis.

He added that two high school stadiums could be constructed for about \$8.2 million versus \$13.5 million, or more, to renovate Victory Stadium; and by eliminating Victory Stadium, the City could develop Reserve Avenue from Victory Stadium to Franklin Road and provide multiple athletic fields with pedestrian bridges linking the fields with the River's Edge Sports Complex, and provide an outstanding recreation venue for Roanoke's children and adults that could be used Monday through Friday throughout the year, as well as a valuable marketing tool for tournaments on weekends. He stated that professionals at the Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Department of Parks and Recreation will verify that this is the type of product they can market and sell. He advised that high school stadiums have been constructed all over the United States from Virginia to California; and the City of Roanoke is building the first of two world class high schools, and the project should be completed with two first class high school stadiums. He encouraged the City to construct facilities that are needed for the next 50 years and not confuse the decision with what was needed and built 50 years ago; and it is time to do the right thing for Roanoke's children, the community and for Roanoke's future by building two high school stadiums, tear down Victory Stadium and develop Reserve Avenue.

Mr. John Kepley, 2909 Morrison Street, S. E., referred to five occasions when the Mayor publicly stated that he supported the renovation of Victory Stadium. He stated that an honorable man is trustworthy and keeps his word which should be his bond.

There were remarks from the audience; whereupon, the Mayor instructed the individual to leave the Council Chamber. When he refused to do so the Mayor declared a brief recess so that Police Officers could escort the person from the Council Chamber.

Mr. Phillip Wright, 1646 Center Hill Drive, S. W., advised that the issue will define for the citizens of Roanoke what is meant by public trust and respect and preservation of minority rights. He stated that public trust has been badly shaken, if not shattered, by the realization that certain elected officials cannot be relied upon to do what they say or to say what they do; and public trust has been damaged by a cleverly orchestrated campaign to insert the local school stadia issue as an "11th hour" maneuver around what is truly needed for the City of Roanoke in the form of a high quality, first class City stadium that meets the needs of all citizens. He added that no one has bothered to ask the taxpayers of the City of Roanoke, and especially the taxpayers in the Grandin Court, Raleigh Court and William Fleming residential neighborhoods their opinion inasmuch as they could be subjected to loss of property values, privacy and the quiet enjoyment of their homes.

Council Member Wishneff expressed concern that speakers were not allowed to quote the names of Council Members while making their presentations, and noted that the comments of Council Members are a matter of public record in the Council's minutes which are on file in the City Clerk's Office.

The Mayor responded that he stated at the beginning of the discussion that there would be civil discourse in the Council Chamber, and he would not allow personal attacks on the Members of Council, the School Board, and the City and School administrations. He stated that he has been broad in his interpretation of remarks and as advised by the City Attorney, any Member of the Council has the right to make a motion to overrule the Chair.

Council Member Wishneff moved that speakers be permitted to read statements that are a matter of public record, whether they be news articles, e-mails, or statements made by the Mayor and Members of Council.

The Mayor responded that he has allowed broad latitude to speakers; however, if a future speaker is overruled by the Chair and Council disagrees with the ruling by the Chair, he would entertain a motion to overrule the Chair.

Mr. Dick Kepley, 550 Kepplewood Road, S. W., advised that a stadium for all of the citizens of the City of Roanoke is needed. He stated that 90,000 people live in Roanoke, most of whom will never attend a high school football game; looking to the future, a 3,000 seat stadium at each of the two high schools will not be successful; and a Virginia High School League playoff game cannot be played at a stadium with a seating capacity of 3,000 according to an official of the Virginia High School League who stated that at least 4,000 seats would be necessary for a playoff game at either school. He took issue with the remarks of the Superintendent of Schools that high school stadia would improve student performance, school spirit and test scores. He also took issue with the figure quoted by the Superintendent of Schools that two 3,000 seat stadiums could be constructed for \$8.2 million when the consultant's report quoted \$16.8 million to build a 5,000 seat stadium. He stated that the citizens of Roanoke deserve to know how the \$8.2 million figure for the two high school stadiums was calculated.

Ms. Susan Wadsworth, 1650 Center Hill Drive, S. W., expressed appreciation for the countless hours of service that Council Members give to the citizens of Roanoke. She stated that she appeared before Council with a heavy heart because Council is about to make a decision that will affect her, her family and her neighbors without their permission; Council has not been able to make a decision regarding Victory Stadium during the last ten years and now the Council is about to make a decision to construct two stadiums at two City high schools as a solution to the Council's indecision. She stated that to ignore the recommendations of paid consultants and a citizen's task force is not befitting of the democratic process; residents of the area surrounding Patrick

Henry High School are not obstructionists and they have enjoyed being good neighbors with Patrick Henry High School, but they must and should be considered because their property values will be affected; and no one has the right to construct a stadium in their back yard without consulting with them. She advised that the big picture should be considered because a 3,000 seat stadium on each of the City's high school campuses will not attract playoff games and other events such as concerts, statewide athletic events, etc. She stated that Roanoke's students need a stadium and the Roanoke Valley deserves a state of the art facility that will serve the needs of the entire community.

Ms. Chris Kaze, 1647 Center Hill Drive, S. W., expressed concern about the message that is being sent to the children of Roanoke when a political agenda is forced on an entire neighborhood; and residents of the area surrounding Patrick Henry High School should have been the first to be consulted, rather than having been left out of the process. She stated that her main purpose in addressing the Council is to point out that the City's actions will teach the children of Roanoke to be less than good neighbors, and Council should listen to the recommendations of the Stadium Study Committee and set the right example for Roanoke's youth.

Mr. Bob Caudle, 4231 Belford Street, S. W., spoke in support of renovating Victory Stadium in view of the figures quoted in the consultant's report.

Ms. Margaret Keyser, 2701 Guilford Avenue, S. W., commended those students who addressed the Council and advised that they were poised, respectful and articulated their position in support of constructing stadia at the two high schools. She inquired as to why those citizens, whose property will be the most affected by the construction of a stadium at Patrick Henry High School, were left out of discussions.

Ms. Valerie Garner, 2264 Mattaponi Drive, N. W., called attention to a telephone conversation with an official of the Virginia Department of Aviation who expressed concern with regard to stadium lighting adjacent to Roanoke Regional Airport and the Aviation official has referred the matter to the Eastern Region of the Federal Aviation Administration for investigation. She stated that Land Use Recommendations of the Virginia Department of Aviation provide that communities discourage the development of residences, schools, churches, hospitals, daycare centers, nursing homes, and other similar uses, including uses resulting in large open air assemblies of people such as amphitheaters and stadiums, near airports. She suggested the City to investigate the matter prior to proceeding with a lighted stadium at the William Fleming High School site.

Mr. Tom Bradley, 2042 Westover Avenue, S. W., spoke in support of the renovation of Victory Stadium.

Dr. J. Keith Bohon, 5012 Cave Spring Circle, S. W., spoke in support of the renovation of Victory Stadium which can be done for \$13.5 million using Historic Tax Credits. He stated that Victory Stadium could receive an \$18 million renovation for \$13.5 million, and the remaining funds could be used to construct a 5,000 seat stadium at William Fleming High School. He advised that Victory Stadium was neglected by the City of Roanoke for over 20 years and cannot be repaired using a "band aid" approach, and advised that a renovated Victory Stadium could be the crown jewel of Riverside Park.

Mr. Tom Skelly, 2402 Avenel Avenue, S. W., spoke in support of the renovation of Victory Stadium.

Mr. Eric Woodard, 2809 Guilford Avenue, S. W., advised that high school stadia appear to be a last minute initiative, nobly motivated, yet lacking adequate and proper planning and process. He stated that the City of Roanoke should improve athletic and academic infrastructure and achievement; and much progress has been made to renovate schools, but rather than providing a better place to play football and soccer, the School Board should be challenged to fund more programs that will act toward achieving State and Federal Standards. He further stated that the City of Roanoke has not followed due process and study in order to make an informed decision; and the issue is not a decision on Victory Stadium, but a last minute power play by a small, but vocal and powerful community claiming noble causes. He advised that as a new parent, he respected the cause of Roanoke's children, but one community, neighborhood or special interest group should not be allowed to force their will on another by claiming nobility and ignoring due process. He stated that if Council votes in favor of high school stadia today, the Members of Council will be accountable in the coming months not for dealing with what is right for the children, but with activities that have allowed a total disregard for those residents who are most profoundly affected.

Mr. Stuart Revercomb, 855 Wildwood Road, S. W., advised that the present City Council and past City Councils have changed direction at the last minute with regard to Victory Stadium, with little information regarding the will of the citizens of Roanoke. He stated that all relevant information has been received after many years of public discourse, opinion surveys, consultant reports, remarks by independent citizens, committee recommendations, editorials, elections in which people are swept into and out of public office, site preparation studies, engineering studies, feasibility studies, School Board input, City staff input and yet on the brink of making a decision, the Council by all indications, is preparing to proceed in another direction, without public comment, a site preparation report, traffic studies, or a feasibility study to make a decision that will once again plummet the community into the same malaise of contention and controversy that has divided Roanoke for many

years. He noted that the City of Roanoke has wasted an unbelievable amount of taxpayer's time and money on the issue, and as elected leaders, Council is charged with the responsibility of making informed and well reasoned decisions, decisions that are arrived at through logical and timely debate. He advised that there are two options; i.e.: nighttime high school stadiums, or renovate Victory Stadium at the \$11.6 or \$13.5 million level and provide day stadiums as called for by the School Board without lights, which would provide a vast majority of the benefits addressed by the Superintendent of Schools. He added that day stadiums could be funded by the balance of the Victory Stadium budget, proceeds from the sale of the Orange Avenue property, and if necessary, by the City's budget for the three years that it takes to develop the William Fleming site. He noted that one of the options will cast the City back into the extended continuous debate that has divided the community and prevented the City from focusing on far more important issues, and the other option will provide a win-win for all Roanokers that will allow the City to move forward as it honors the past with a renewed spirit of cooperation and optimism.

Ms. Estelle McCadden, 2128 Mercer Avenue, N. W., advised that citizens and neighborhoods make a city and neighborhoods are the fabric of a city. She stated that while recognizing the needs of Roanoke's students, Council is forgetting the City's general citizenry; therefore, she spoke in support of renovating Victory Stadium and moving the facility out of the floodplain.

Mr. Jim George, 2340 Blenheim Road, S. W., advised that Council Members should place service to the citizens of Roanoke above themselves, and asked that Council Members listen to the people, pay attention to what is going on in the community and not make decisions based on politics. He called attention to actions of past leaders of the City of Roanoke to save The Hotel Roanoke which has created numerous economic opportunities for the downtown area and increased property values. He questioned what will happen to property values in the neighborhoods surrounding Patrick Henry High School if a stadium is constructed and pointed out that Council Members were elected to represent the best interests of the citizens of the City of Roanoke by asking questions and by obtaining the necessary information prior to making major decisions.

Mr. Ralph Eaton, 2428 Lofton Road, S. W., advised that residents of Grandin Court are disappointed that they were not included in the decision to construct a stadium at Patrick Henry High School.

Ms. Claudia A. Whitworth, 2318 Melrose Avenue, N. W., advised that her remarks regarding Victory Stadium were made with no emotional commitment to the Stadium. She stated that over the years she has listened and observed with an open mind the "political ping pong" that has gone on as to whether to rebuild a new City stadium, or to renovate existing Victory Stadium in its present state of disrepair, which is due to the benign neglect of the facility by

the City. She expressed surprise that after all this time the Council is now considering the construction of stadia at the two high schools and advised that after listening to previous speakers, it would appear that she has observed two separate meetings; i.e.: one for a City stadium and one for high school stadia. She stated that she was astonished to hear that stadia are proposed to be constructed at the two high schools, one of which is historically black and one is historically white, and regardless of current statistical data on either stadium, they will be stigmatized as such. She expressed disappointment that a City stadium for all of the citizens of Roanoke has gotten lost in the process with no reasonable alternative.

Mr. Don Bouldin, 2114 Berkley Avenue, S. W., advised that the Victory Stadium Study Committee submitted its recommendations; Council stated that the two options under consideration were to either renovate or to demolish Victory Stadium, a consultant reported that Victory Stadium is structurally sound and it would be cheaper to renovate the facility, and at the last minute the School Board recommended smaller stadia at the two high schools. He challenged the Council to follow its original plan; i.e.: to not place any other options on the table and to renovate Victory Stadium.

Mr. Tommy Firebaugh, 4703 Phyllis Road, S. E., advised that the City of Roanoke is missing an important opportunity by not promoting Victory Stadium at a higher level for concerts, special activities, celebrations and arts and crafts, rather than primarily for football. He stated that Roanoke's two high schools have used Victory Stadium in the past for football games and there is no reason why football games cannot continue to be played in a renovated Victory Stadium. He spoke in support of holding a referenda to allow the citizens of Roanoke to vote on the fate of Victory Stadium. He expressed concern that citizens residing in the neighborhoods surrounding the two high schools were not consulted prior to the School Board submitting a recommendation to the Council regarding high school athletic fields.

Mr. Robert E. Gravely, 727 29th Street, N. W., expressed concern with regard to the consideration of stadiums at the two high schools at this late hour, and especially without input from the neighborhoods surrounding the two high schools, or more detailed financial information. He stated that if properly promoted, Victory Stadium could generate much needed revenue for the City.

Mr. Kurt Navratil, 1877 Arlington Road, S. W., President, Greater Raleigh Court Civic League, which consists of more than 10,000 residences and over 400 members, including residents and businesses, advised that the Board of Directors voted to support the concept of stadia at the City's two high schools; however, the Board of Directors did not support a specific proposal, nor did it intend to give carte blanche approval to construction of just any type of facility on campus. He added that it is understood that the facility will introduce many things to the neighborhood and the Board of Directors intends to ensure that issues such as lighting, frequency of use, litter, vehicular and pedestrian traffic,

parking and noise are minimized and contained to the highest extent possible. He stated that the neighborhood's rationale for supporting the concept of high school stadiums is to improve the education and athletic experience of Roanoke's children and to strengthen the neighborhood. He further stated that the topic under discussion deals with not just structures, but with children and the desire to give Roanoke's children every reason to want to return to the Roanoke Valley after graduating from college.

The Reverend Carl T. Tinsley, 2647 Springhill Drive, N. W., expressed concern that if Council votes to construct stadia at the two high schools, such action will be in conflict with a recommendation of the Council appointed Stadium Study Committee and the consultant that was engaged by the City to study the condition of Victory Stadium. He advised that he was not opposed to the construction of high school stadia, but he was opposed to a stadium in his neighborhood. He stated that Roanoke's schools should be updated, and, in due time, stadiums can be constructed for the two high schools, but there is a need to move forward with the Victory Stadium issue and to renovate the stadium so that it can be used by all of the citizens of Roanoke.

Mr. Tom Cain, 2258 Memorial Avenue, S. W., encouraged the City of Roanoke to begin to think of itself not only as a City, but as an ecosystem. He stated that water cannot be compressed from the Roanoke River basin, water displaced from one place must seek another, therefore, Roanoke should be careful not to try to mitigate its problems by worsening the problems of its neighbors down stream. He further stated that having just commemorated the 20th anniversary of the flood of 1985, the City of Roanoke and the Roanoke Valley should be especially sensible with regard to development in flood plains; the world is full of anomalies, Historic Tax Credits may be available to encourage and in this case, to enable new development in flood plains, but as a matter of public policy, they should not be. He added that stadia on the high school campuses in the neighborhoods will enrich community life, improve neighborhoods and provide a commercial boost to neighborhood merchants.

Mr. Roy Chambers, 2807 Huntington Boulevard, N. W., President, Roanoke Valley Hospitality Association, which is comprised of business leaders in the hospitality industry representing hotels, convention and visitor bureaus, surrounding cities and counties, civic centers, chambers of commerce, restaurants, and educational facilities spoke on behalf of all of the above entities that will be affected by a stadium. He spoke in support of athletic fields at William Fleming and Patrick Henry High Schools which will provide a sense of individualism for each of the high schools, for current students and for the students of future generations. Additionally, he requested that Council reconsider Victory Stadium options and a new stadium. He stated that Roanoke is the largest City on the Blue Ridge Parkway, the City of Roanoke is the capitol of the Roanoke Valley and southwest Virginia, the City of Roanoke is in a position to be the leader of all other cities and towns in the Roanoke Valley and southwest Virginia; and in this leadership position, Roanoke City and City

Council have a duty to its citizens to preserve Roanoke's history and to prepare for Roanoke's future. Therefore, he recommended that Council table consideration of all options regarding Victory Stadium and/or a new facility and appoint another committee composed of persons who are attuned to both the history and the future of the Roanoke Valley, to those types of activities that a stadium will attract, and to how funds can be appropriated to preserve the history of Victory Stadium while preparing for the future of the City of Roanoke. He encouraged Council to be the leaders they were elected to be by representing the citizens of Roanoke, by following the advice of the City Manager, and by not allowing personal agendas to hinder present and future progress of the Roanoke Valley.

Mr. Robert Craig, 701 12th Street, S. W., advised that the citizens of Roanoke pay \$103,000.00 collectively in salaries to the Members of Roanoke City Council, therefore, Council should be accountable for its actions to Roanoke's citizens. He asked the following question: What is the City's current debt and how much interest is paid each year?

Ms. Frieda Tate, 4556 Van Winkle Road, S. W., spoke in support of the renovation of Victory Stadium. She expressed concern that some Council Members have changed their position with regard to Victory Stadium after publicly stating that they supported renovation of the facility.

Mr. Charlie Bowles, Camp Careysbrook, Riner, Virginia, spoke in support of the renovation of Victory Stadium, and stated that Victory Stadium is a regional facility that attracts people from as far away as the Town of Blacksburg and Montgomery County. He added that Victory Stadium is in its current state of disrepair because the City of Roanoke did not budget funds for maintaining the facility after the Civic Center was constructed.

Ms. Margaret Kreger, 835 Wildwood Road, S. W., a junior at Patrick Henry High School and Spirit Chair of the Student Government Association, advised that students support an athletic field at Patrick Henry High School. She expressed concern and embarrassment with regard to the behavior that was exhibited by some adults at today's Council meeting. She stated that the number one reason to construct stadiums at the two high schools is due to the poor condition of Victory Stadium, which is "prison-like" in its appearance with fencing around the facility and the presence of police officers. She spoke in support of the construction of high school stadia which will not only improve academics, but improve school spirit by involving students which, in turn, will increase their motivation to attend school.

The Mayor expressed appreciation to all speakers for their participation and called on Council Members for remarks.

Council Member Cutler offered the following resolution:

(#37237-110705) A RESOLUTION authorizing the filing of a petition to amend the conditions attaching to the zoning of property which is owned by the City of Roanoke and which is designated as Official Tax No. 1460101.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, page 57.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Resolution No. 37237-110705. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick.

Council Member Dowe expressed appreciation to the citizens of the community for their love and passion for Roanoke. He stated that each citizen came to the Council meeting with various opinions, yet he personally sensed a genuine respect as he interacted with citizens during the course of the afternoon. He added that he prayed for a healing of the community, and commended the Members of Council because it is not easy to be in the Council's position. He stated that the Victory Stadium issue has been studied and restudied, however, certain issues stood out in the consultant's report that indicated that it would not be a wise decision to construct a stadium larger than 5,000 seats. He acknowledged that Victory Stadium has not been properly maintained for a number of years and a marketing study revealed that the City of Roanoke cannot do a lot more to market the stadium, because there are more markets, cities, populations, and historical propensity to support events--in other words, there are not a lot of football teams or concerts that could fill 10,000-20,000 seats. He stated that the same study reinforced the fact that it would be difficult to justify building a facility of 18,000 seats for a declining population. He advised that when a child speaks he listens, and Roanoke's students are asking for high school athletic fields. He emphasized that it would be necessary for the City to address any problems that need to be dealt with in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick advised that Victory Stadium and high school stadia are challenging issues for all of the Members of Council; there appears to be a lack of community sense as to what Council and the citizens are attempting to do, and it is not a Council that is against the neighborhoods, but a Council that is trying to do the best it can with taxpayers' dollars. He stated that speaking as a past economic developer, there are certain things in the community that some people either do not want to know, or do not want to accept; the City of Roanoke is facing tremendous challenges at the present time with an older population per capita than any other city in the Commonwealth of Virginia, the City of Roanoke has more citizens who have frozen their real estate taxes than any other city in Virginia and as a result, Roanoke's schools are in trouble, the City has a shrinking tax base because the tax base cannot be expanded through annexation, Roanoke is not creating the right kind of jobs for its young people, and the cost of operating the City is increasing every year. He added that Victory Stadium could be renovated for \$17 plus million and with Historic Tax Credits, the cost would be \$13.5 million, however, an additional \$2 million would be required to install restrooms for 18,000 people; attorneys

have indicated that the City cannot be certain that it will be eligible for the entire Historic Tax Credit package, and if the entire tax credit package is not approved, the remainder of funds would have to come from taxpayers. He added that the marketing study indicated that the City is not in a good competitive position to have a large stadium for any purpose, and promoters do not book concerts at football stadiums because they prefer amphitheaters. He advised that bottom line, the City does not have the market to sell 18,000 seats to anyone, and from a fiscal perspective, taxpayers' money would go into an empty stadium with an average of about 1,500 attendees. He added that the consultants indicated that 90 per cent of Victory Stadium's usage would be by the two high schools; therefore, the question is, what is best for the students, what will it take to keep young people in the Roanoke Valley, what is needed to have more than a 50 per cent graduation rate, and where is the City of Roanoke when it has five schools that are already on probation and five more that are about to go on probation. He stated that the issue is not about a stadium, but about an inner city that is experiencing challenging times and it will cost taxpayers large sums of money if some of the major issues cannot be fixed. He acknowledged that certain valid issues have been addressed by the neighborhoods if stadia are constructed at the two high schools, and the resolution introduced by Council Member Cutler provides for public hearings at the City Planning Commission and City Council levels; neighborhoods have not been left out of the process and residents will have every opportunity for input to address traffic, lighting and other issues. He explained that the decision today would not be to construct a stadium, but to initiate the process for the rezoning that will enable the City to work out the details. He added that it would be irresponsible to vote against two high school stadiums at a cost of \$8.2 million and save the taxpayers \$10 million, but more importantly the young people of Roanoke have stated their interest in having a complete school. He advised that Victory Stadium will not last forever, the Stadium will not generate revenue, but will continue to cost the City money, and knowing what lies ahead, the City cannot afford to continue to pay for Victory Stadium. He stated that the Victory Stadium issue is holding the Roanoke Valley back from achieving its potential and must be resolved one way or another.

The Mayor commended the behavior of students who addressed the Council. He advised that when he ran for office, on a number of occasions, he stated that Council should study the renovation of Victory Stadium, but any option that would exceed \$10 million was too costly. He added that he had not discarded or ignored the reports by consultants that were presented to the Council last week; the Heery report found that four out of the five options exceeded the City's financial capacity; and the one exception was the renovation option using Historic Tax Credits. He added that it was also important to remember that the Heery study was submitted with a marketing and feasibility analysis which was clear in its assessment that for 90 per cent of the activities that a stadium could generate, the City of Roanoke would not need more than 5,000 seats; and the marketing and feasibility study also indicated that even in a best case operating scenario, regardless of whether it

was the two renovation options or the three new build options, the stadium would have to be heavily subsidized annually by the City for operations. He stated that approximately one month ago, when he began to hear from the Roanoke Central Council PTA and from school administrators of their interest in stadia at the two high schools, he was not excited about the concept, and was frustrated and fatigued by the entire stadium saga; however, prior to receipt of the Heery report and the marketing and feasibility study, he realized that he should not allow his frustrations and fatigue to have, as its only goal, a decision, but his ultimate goal should be to make the right decision. He submitted that he has tried to be fair in the process, whether it was with regard to organizing the Stadium Study Committee, or engaging the consultant's report. He stated that citizens residing in Raleigh Court and Grandin Court should and will be involved; the resolution that was previously introduced will immediately initiate community and neighborhood meetings with both School and City officials to discuss the stadium at Patrick Henry High School and allow opportunities for residents to present their concerns regarding lights, traffic, ingress and egress and parking, etc., within the next two to four weeks. He added that information will be disseminated through the Grandin Court Civic League, the Raleigh Court Civic League, flyers and the news media to promote community engagement meetings; and following community meetings, public hearings will be held by the City Planning Commission and the City Council which will provide additional opportunities for public involvement regarding any unresolved concerns or suggestions. He advised that he has asked himself two primary questions in the midst of the issue: first, what is in the best interest of the City as a whole, and second, what, in that context, is the most fiscally responsible thing to do. He stated that the School Board and the Superintendent of Schools, faculty and the administrators are working hard to bring a new spirit and a sense of community to Roanoke's high school campuses; and although high school stadia will not be the panacea that will cure all ills, they can have a positive impact on the City's high school campuses and on Roanoke's students.

Council Member Lea stated that he was appalled that citizens residing in the Grandin Court/Raleigh Court neighborhood had to read in *The Roanoke Times* that Council was preparing, on a fast track, to construct a stadium in their neighborhood. He stated that Council met with the consultants last Tuesday; shortly after the meeting, there was a need to meet with the School Board, that had one week earlier forwarded information stating that the School Board's Athletic Committee and the School Board were in favor of high school stadia, however, the School Board indicated that it was a decision that would ultimately have to be made by the Council. He added that even though the School Board did not request a meeting with Council, Council met with the Board on Thursday, November 3, at which time the Superintendent of Schools stated that if athletic fields are constructed at the two high schools, the dropout rate would be reduced and student achievement scores would go up; and it was reported through the local news media that the Superintendent of Schools, who assumed his position in July 2005, recently advised the Central Council PTA that

he was conceding to have stadiums constructed at both high schools. He advised that when the Mayor states that he changed his mind on the stadia issue out of concern for the community as a whole, he would question what community the Mayor is making reference to, because Victory Stadium is an icon in the Roanoke community and a historical landmark. In the days of segregation, he stated that Victory Stadium was the one place in the City of Roanoke where all citizens, black or white, could go and leave segregation at the gates; William Fleming, Jefferson, and Lucy Addison High Schools used the same football field and brought the community together, and now the City is talking about tearing the stadium down. He further stated that Victory Stadium has hosted Fourth of July celebrations where the community comes together and the Western Virginia Education Classic that raised over \$100,000.00 over the last six years and has brought approximately 500 young people back to school. He advised that three Members of the Council voted to construct a stadium/amphitheater on Orange Avenue; week after week barrels containing contaminated substances were uncovered, but there was no rush at that time to bring the School Board to the table, and no concern was expressed for Roanoke's children. He stated that the consultant's report provided information that was needed to resolve the Victory Stadium issue both fairly and openly. He stressed the importance of remembering that under discussion is not just a building, but an icon that has existed in the Roanoke community for many years and Victory Stadium is an important historical landmark to a vast majority of Roanoke's citizens.

Council Member McDaniel advised that a lot of voices have been heard and she did not doubt the passion or the sincerity of any speaker. She stated that when one opts to serve in public office, they know that they will not be able to make everyone happy, but they strive to do what is right. She further stated that she lives in the Raleigh Court area, about two blocks from Patrick Henry High School, she is a former President of the Greater Raleigh Court Civic League, and she is passionate about the neighborhood where she has lived for the past 30 years. She advised that if she believed that constructing a football stadium on the Patrick Henry campus would hurt the neighborhood, she would fight against it, however, after hearing more about how the lights can be mitigated, that only five or six football games a year would be played on the athletic field, the needs of the schools, and the wishes of students, she has come to realize that a stadium might not be such a bad thing. She stated that it could be an opportunity to make the neighborhood stronger as it embraces the school, Patrick Henry High School is a part of the neighborhood and it would be logical to construct a football field on the high school campus, while offering a substantial savings to the taxpayers of Roanoke. She pledged support to the Greater Raleigh Court Civic League and to the Grandin Road Neighborhood Association to ensure that the athletic field will be an asset to the neighborhood.

Council Member Wishneff referred to previous comments and commitments made by certain Members of Council with regard to Victory Stadium that have not been honored. He advised that the Stadium Study Committee did not agree on the construction of stadia at the two high schools, School Board members served on the Study Committee, no one at that time brought up the issue of athletic fields at the two high schools, and this most recent attempt to construct high school stadiums is an excuse by the Council to not renovate Victory Stadium. He reviewed the minutes of the May 2, 2005, Council meeting at which time Members of Council commented on the recommendations of the Stadium Study Committee and the construction of athletic fields at the two high schools and read a portion of a previous e-mail from the Mayor regarding his position on high school stadia. He expressed concern that ever since the findings of the consultant were made public, some persons have worked to discredit the report; as a consultant he has worked with the Historic Tax Credits program throughout the United States, however, no City representative contacted him to discuss their concerns, but instead went in other directions to discredit the consultant's report. He added that Roanoke is a City that tax credits built, and referred to the following projects that were completed using the Historic Tax Credit program: Higher Education Center, Seven North Jefferson, O. Winston Link Museum, Shenandoah Hotel, Burrell Hospital, Grandin Theater, Jefferson Center, Warehouse Row and the future Culinary School, all of which have created \$30 million in cash from Historic Tax Credit investors.

He advised that it would cost less to construct and operate an 18,000 seat stadium, which could be an enormous opportunity for the City of Roanoke if marketed correctly; and the consultant advised that for a facility of its age, Victory Stadium is a sound structure.

Mr. Wishneff questioned the figures quoted by the Superintendent of Schools to construct stadia at the two high schools and compared the cost of renovating Victory Stadium with the cost of the two athletic fields. He stated that Victory Stadium could be renovated for the benefit of all of the citizens of Roanoke and the high schools could play their five football games at the newly renovated facility. He added that for the Councilmanic election in May 2006, the issue will not be about Victory Stadium specifically, but about trust and integrity.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 37237-110705 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, McDaniel and Mayor Harris-----5.

NAYS: Council Members Lea and Wishneff-----2.

INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

COUNCIL: Council Member Cutler offered the following resolution changing the time of commencement and the place of the regular meeting of City Council scheduled to be held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, November 21, 2005, to 12:00 p.m., in Room 159, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, for a meeting of Council with Congressman Bob Goodlatte:

(#37238-110705) A RESOLUTION changing the time of commencement and the place of the regular meeting of City Council scheduled to be held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, November 21, 2005.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, page 58.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Resolution No. 37238-110705. The motion was seconded by Council Member McDaniel and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, McDaniel, Wishneff and Mayor Harris-----7.

NAYS: None-----0.

MOTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

INQUIRIES AND/OR COMMENTS BY THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Council Member Lea advised that a community forum on domestic violence will be held on Tuesday, November 29, 2005, at 6:00 p.m., at the Roanoke Civic Center.

HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS: The Mayor advised that Council sets this time as a priority for citizens to be heard and matters requiring referral to the City Manager will be referred immediately for response, recommendation or report to Council.

CITY COUNCIL: Mr. Chris Craft, 1501 East Gate Avenue, N. E., suggested that Council Members be seated facing the audience at the 9:00 a.m., Council work session on the first Monday of each month.

PROCLAMATIONS: Ms. Evelyn D. Bethel, 35 Patton Avenue, N. E., stated that she was under the impression that Council was interested in developing good character, but the actions she had witnessed at today's Council meeting were quite saddening. She advised that those persons who addressed the Council stated that citizens have no control over the stadium issue, and expressed concern with regard to the example that was set today for Roanoke's young people.

ARMORY/STADIUM-SCHOOLS: Ms. Helen E. Davis, 35 Patton Avenue, N. E., expressed concern that citizens were permitted to speak for only three five minutes to the Victory Stadium/high school stadia issue and that restrictions were placed on what they could and could not say. She expressed disappointment that some Members of the Council have not honored their word, and expressed appreciation to other Council Members who have displayed character, vision, integrity, leadership, courage, truthfulness, and dedication to all of the citizens of the Roanoke Valley. She stated that Victory Stadium is used for more than just football games, it is an historic structure that is used by all of Roanoke's citizens, and the majority of citizens have spoken in favor of renovating Victory Stadium. She encouraged that Council place the question on a referendum for a vote by Roanoke's citizens.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Mr. Shaheed Omar, 1219 Loudon Avenue, N. W., spoke with regard to an incident of alleged police brutality on Wednesday, October 26, 2005, in Melrose Park, which was witnessed by a number of persons. He stated that pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, he would request information relating to the arrest, and advised that the Chief of Police should be in control of the actions of police officers who should be required to abide by certain standards of conduct and should not be allowed to come into low income communities and physically abuse citizens. He requested that the City initiate an independent investigation and that the U. S. Department of Justice also investigate the matter.

TRAFFIC: Mr. Don Bouldin, 2114 Berkley Avenue, S. W., commended the City of Roanoke on traffic calming measures on Grandin Road; however, he noted that no space is allocated for handicapped parking, other than in the vicinity of a local restaurant and the theater. He called attention to four spaces in front of the drug store that would provide a good location for handicapped parking. He also called attention to a dangerous traffic situation at the stop sign when attempting to turn left onto Grandin Road, where visibility is obstructed due to the curb extension. He further called attention to the traffic light at Grandin Road and Memorial Avenue, as vehicles turn left onto Grandin Road, the light changes at the same time for a right turn from Grandin Road onto Memorial Avenue, which creates the potential of a traffic accident, particularly between 3:00 - 3:15 p.m., at the close of the school day.

CITY COUNCIL: Mr. Robert E. Gravely, 727 29th Street, N. W., spoke with regard to ethics, morals and the obligations of elected officials to the citizenry of Roanoke.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Mr. Tony C. Hairston, 1263 Tayloe Avenue, S. E., spoke with regard to alleged police brutality. He stated that the City of Roanoke and the nation, in general, have declined over the past ten years; and America has become a nation of onlookers, where violence is seen but not addressed, and a nation where drugs are present, but only those who are oppressed by drugs are arrested. He added that Victory Stadium should be renovated for use by all of the citizens of Roanoke.

ARMORY/STADIUM-SCHOOLS: Mr. Winfred C. Noell, 2743 Northview Drive, S. W., advised that as he listened to the comments made by students earlier in the Council meeting, they referred to various physical reasons for supporting stadia at the two high schools; however, if Victory Stadium is renovated, all of their concerns would be addressed. Also, he noted that certain things could be done through renovation of Victory Stadium that would increase school identity. He advised that numerous comments were made by various speakers that stadiums in the neighborhoods surrounding Patrick Henry High School and William Fleming High School would be an asset, therefore, citizens residing in northeast and southeast Roanoke might be inclined to make the same request.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS: NONE.

There being no further business, the Mayor declared the Council meeting in recess to be reconvened on Thursday, November 10, 2005, at 7:00 p.m., at The Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center, 110 Shenandoah Avenue, N. E., City of Roanoke, Virginia, for the Regional Legislative Dinner. (Inasmuch as a quorum of the Council was not present, no minutes of the Regional Legislative meeting were recorded.)

A P P R O V E D

ATTEST:

Mary F. Parker
City Clerk

C. Nelson Harris
Mayor



C. NELSON HARRIS
Mayor

CITY OF ROANOKE
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

215 CHURCH AVENUE, S.W., ROOM 452
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24011-1594
TELEPHONE: (540) 853-2444
FAX: (540) 853-1145

December 19, 2005

The Honorable Vice-Mayor and Members
of the Roanoke City Council
Roanoke, Virginia

Dear Members of Council:

This is to request a Closed Meeting to discuss vacancies on certain authorities, boards, commissions and committees appointed by Council, and to interview an applicant for a vacancy on the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Nelson Harris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

C. Nelson Harris
Mayor

CNH:snh



CITY OF ROANOKE

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building
215 Church Avenue, S.W., Room 364
Roanoke, Virginia 24011-1591

Telephone: (540) 853-2333

Fax: (540) 853-1138

City Web: www.roanokeva.gov

December 19, 2005

Honorable C. Nelson Harris, Mayor
Honorable Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Vice Mayor
Honorable M. Rupert Cutler, Council Member
Honorable Alfred T. Dowe, Jr., Council Member
Honorable Sherman P. Lea, Council Member
Honorable Brenda L. McDaniel, Council Member
Honorable Brian J. Wishneff, Council Member

Dear Mayor Harris and Members of Council:

Subject: Request to Schedule a Public
Hearing

Background:

The Elias Azar dba Azar Jewelry, Inc. has requested a lease for 418 square feet of space located in the City Market Building at 32 Market Square, Roanoke, Virginia 24011. The lease term requested is for a three-year period. A public hearing is required to consider this lease term.

Recommended Action:

Authorize the scheduling and advertising of this matter for a public hearing on January 3, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Darlene L. Burcham".
Darlene L. Burcham
City Manager

DLB:lpp

c: Mary F. Parker, City Clerk
William M. Hackworth, City Attorney
Jesse A. Hall, Director of Finance



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December 19, 2005

The Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council
Roanoke, Virginia

Dear Mayor and Members of Council:

I would like to sponsor a request from Ginny Harden, Director of Prevention for Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare and chair of the Roanoke Prevention Planning Team to share with City Council youth data for Roanoke youth advocates.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Darlene L. Burcham".

Darlene L. Burcham
City Manager

DLB:sm

c: City Attorney
Director of Finance
City Clerk



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December 19, 2005

Honorable C. Nelson Harris, Mayor
Honorable Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Vice Mayor
Honorable M. Rupert Cutler, Council Member
Honorable Alfred T. Dowe, Jr., Council Member
Honorable Sherman P. Lea, Council Member
Honorable Brenda L. McDaniel, Council Member
Honorable Brian J. Wishneff, Council Member

Dear Mayor Harris and Members of City Council:

**Subject: Funding for Western Virginia
Workforce Development Board Work-Force
Investment Act (WIA) Programs**

Background:

The City of Roanoke is the grant recipient for Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funding; thus, City Council must appropriate the funding for all grants and other monies received in order for the Western Virginia Workforce Development Board to administer WIA programs. The Western Virginia Workforce Development Board administers the federally funded Workforce Investment Act (WIA) for Area 3, which encompasses the counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke, and the cities of Covington, Roanoke, and Salem.

WIA funding is for four primary client populations:

- Dislocated workers who have been laid off from employment through no fault of their own;
- Economically disadvantaged individuals as determined by household income guidelines defined by the U.S. Department of Labor;
- Youth who are economically disadvantaged, or who have other barriers to becoming successfully employed adults; and
- Businesses in need of employment and job training services.

The Western Virginia Workforce Development Board has received a Notice of Obligation (NOO), from the Virginia Employment Commission, allocating \$192,077 for the Youth Program which serves economically disadvantaged youth, \$181,725 for the Adult Program which serves economically disadvantaged adults, and \$208,131 for the Dislocated Worker Program which serves workers laid off from employment through no fault of their own, for Program Year 2005 (July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2007). Ten percent of the aforementioned totals are to be allocated to the administrative function of the Western Virginia Workforce Development Board.

Considerations:

- Program Operations – Existing activities will continue, and planned programs will be implemented.
- Funding – Funds are available from the Grantor agency and other sources as indicated, at no additional cost to the City.

Recommendations:

Accept the Western Virginia Workforce Development Board Workforce Investment Act funding of \$581,933 for Program Year 2005.

Adopt the accompanying budget ordinance to establish a revenue estimate in the amount of \$581,933 and appropriate funding of the same amount to expenditure accounts to be established by the Director of Finance in the Grant Fund as outlined on the attachment.

Respectfully submitted,



Darlene L. Burcham
City Manager

c: Mary F. Parker, City Clerk
William M. Hackworth, City Attorney
Jesse A. Hall, Director of Finance
Sherman M. Stovall, Director of Management and Budget
Rolanda B. Russell, Assistant City Manager for Community Development
Jane Conlin, Director of Human Services

CM05-00180

Western Virginia Workforce Development Board 2005-2007 Budget Allocation

<u>Org. Name</u>	<u>Fund/Agency/ Org.</u>	<u>Object Code</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Council Letter Allocation</u>
Admininstrative	35-633-2320	8050	Wages	\$ 40,799
		8090	Telephone	\$ 892
		8052	Travel	\$ 1,978
		8055	Supplies	\$ 1,813
		8053	Marketing	\$ 1,813
		8057	Contractual Services	\$ 408
		8059	Equipment	\$ 930
		8056	Insurance	\$ 1,767
		2010	Fees for Professional Services	\$ 500
		3070	Equipment Rental/Lease	\$ 1,813
		3075	Other Rental	\$ 1,613
		2042	Dues and Subscriptions	\$ 845
		2044	Training and Development	\$ 3,022
Total				<u>\$ 58,193</u>
Adult	35-633-2321	8090	Telephone	\$ 191
		8058	Leases	\$ 648
		8055	Supplies	\$ 389
		8053	Marketing	\$ 389
		8057	Contractual Services	\$ 160,899
		3070	Equipment Rental/Lease	\$ 389
		2044	Training and Development	\$ 648
Total				<u>\$ 163,553</u>
Dislocated Worker	35-633-2322	8090	Telephone	\$ 201
		8058	Leases	\$ 683
		8055	Supplies	\$ 410
		8053	Marketing	\$ 410
		8057	Contractual Services	\$ 184,521
		3070	Equipment Rental/Lease	\$ 410
		2044	Training and Development	\$ 683
Total				<u>\$ 187,318</u>
Youth In-School	35-633-2323	8090	Telephone	\$ 88
		8055	Supplies	\$ 179
		8053	Marketing	\$ 179
		3070	Equipment Rental/Lease	\$ 179
		8057	Contractual Services	\$ 120,383
Total				<u>\$ 121,008</u>

Youth Out-of-School	35-633-2324	8050 Wages	\$ 1,920
		8090 Telephone	\$ 37
		8055 Supplies	\$ 74
		8053 Marketing	\$ 74
		3070 Equipment Rental/Lease	\$ 74
		8057 Contractual Services	\$ 49,682
Total			<u>\$ 51,861</u>
Grand Total Budget Allocation			\$ 581,933

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding for the FY06 Workforce Investment Act Grant, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2005-2006 Grant Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Roanoke that the following sections of the 2005-2006 Grant Fund Appropriations be, and the same are hereby, amended and reordained to read and provide as follows:

Appropriations

Administrative - Fees for Professional Services	035-633-2320-2010	\$ 500
Administrative - Dues & Subscriptions	035-633-2320-2042	845
Administrative - Training & Development	035-633-2320-2044	3,022
Administrative - Equipment Rental/Lease	035-633-2320-3070	1,813
Administrative - Other Rental	035-633-2320-3075	1,613
Administrative - Wages	035-633-2320-8050	40,799
Administrative - Travel	035-633-2320-8052	1,978
Administrative - Marketing	035-633-2320-8053	1,813
Administrative - Supplies	035-633-2320-8055	1,813
Administrative - Insurance	035-633-2320-8056	1,767
Administrative - Contractual Services	035-633-2320-8057	408
Administrative - Equipment	035-633-2320-8059	930
Administrative - Telephone	035-633-2320-8090	892
Adult - Training & Development	035-633-2321-2044	648
Adult - Equipment Rental/Lease	035-633-2321-3070	389
Adult - Marketing	035-633-2321-8053	389
Adult - Supplies	035-633-2321-8055	389
Adult - Contractual services	035-633-2321-8057	160,899
Adult - Leases	035-633-2321-8058	648
Adult - Telephone	035-633-2321-8090	191
Dislocated Worker - Training & Development	035-633-2322-2044	683
Dislocated Worker - Equipment Rental/Lease	035-633-2322-3070	410
Dislocated Worker - Marketing	035-633-2322-8053	410
Dislocated Worker - Supplies	035-633-2322-8055	410
Dislocated Worker - Contractual services	035-633-2322-8057	184,521
Dislocated Worker - Leases	035-633-2322-8058	683
Dislocated Worker - Telephone	035-633-2322-8090	201
Youth In-School - Equipment Rental/Lease	035-633-2323-3070	179

Youth In-School - Marketing	035-633-2323-8053	179
Youth In-School - Supplies	035-633-2323-8055	179
Youth In-School - Contractual services	035-633-2323-8057	120,383
Youth In-School - Telephone	035-633-2323-8090	88
Youth Out-of-School - Equipment Rental/Lease	035-633-2324-3070	74
Youth Out-of-School - Wages	035-633-2324-8050	1,920
Youth Out-of-School - Marketing	035-633-2324-8053	74
Youth Out-of-School - Supplies	035-633-2324-8055	74
Youth Out-of-School - Contractual services	035-633-2324-8057	49,682
Youth Out-of-School - Telephone	035-633-2324-8090	37
Revenues		
Workforce Investment Act Grant FY06	035-633-2320-2320	581,933

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 12 of the City Charter, the second reading of this ordinance by title is hereby dispensed with.

ATTEST:

City Clerk.

WVW

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA,

A RESOLUTION accepting the Western Virginia Workforce Development Board Workforce Investment Act funding of \$581,933 and authorizing the City Manager to execute the requisite documents necessary to accept the funding.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Roanoke as follows:

1. The Western Virginia Workforce Development Board Workforce Investment Act funding of \$581,933 is hereby ACCEPTED.

2. The City Manager is authorized to execute, and the City Clerk is authorized to attest, the requisite documents necessary to accept funding, and any and all understandings, assurances and documents relating thereto, in such form as is approved by the City Attorney, as more particularly set out in the City Manager's letter dated December 19, 2005, to City Council.

ATTEST:

City Clerk.



CITY OF ROANOKE

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building
215 Church Avenue, S.W., Room 364
Roanoke, Virginia 24011-1591

Telephone: (540) 853-2333

Fax: (540) 853-1138

City Web: www.roanokeva.gov

December 19, 2005

Honorable C. Nelson Harris, Mayor, and Members of City Council
Roanoke, Virginia

Dear Mayor Harris and Members of Council:

Subject: Parking Ordinance
 Amendments
 CM05-00182

This is to request space on Council's regular agenda for a report on the above referenced subject.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Darlene L. Burcham".

Darlene L. Burcham
City Manager

DLB:sm

c: City Attorney
 City Clerk
 Director of Finance

JS

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

AN ORDINANCE amending Section 20-89, Penalties for Unlawful Parking, Article IV, Stopping, Standing and Parking, and adding a new Section 20-90, Immobilization of Motor Vehicles Against Which There Are Outstanding Parking Violations, of Chapter 20, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, providing for an effective date; and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Roanoke as follows:

1. The Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, is hereby amended and reordained by amending Section 20-89, Penalties for Unlawful Parking, Article IV, Stopping, Standing and Parking, of Chapter 20, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, to read and provide as follows:

* * *

Sec. 20-89. Penalties for unlawful parking.

(b) *Written notice from a police officer for violation of division 1 of this article and penalties.*

(1) Every person receiving written notice from a police officer that he has violated any of the sections of division 1 of this article may waive his right to appear and be formally tried for the violation set forth in the notice upon the voluntary payment, as penalty and in full satisfaction of such violation, of the penalty set forth below. Such penalty shall be paid to the city treasurer during the regular working hours of his office or through any other method established by city council for the routine payment of such penalties. For purposes of this subsection, penalties shall be deemed to have been "paid" when full payment therefore has been received by the city treasurer, regardless of whether such penalty is paid in person or is mailed. The city treasurer shall be authorized to accept partial

payment of penalties due. Penalties for parking violations shall be as follows:

Table Inset:

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Section Violation	Penalty	Penalty
	If paid within 15 days of the issuance by an officer of a notice of violation	If paid after 15 days of the issuance by an officer of a notice of violation
20-65(3); 20-65(6); 20-65(7); 20-65(10); 20-65(12); 20-65(13); 20-70; 20-72; 20-73 or 20-75	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00
20-65(14) or 20-68 <i>First violation</i>	15.00 <i>Warning Ticket</i>	30.00 <i>N/A</i>
<i>20-65(14) or 20-68 – Second violation, but the first violation on that calendar day</i>	<i>15.00</i>	<i>30.00</i>
<i>20-65(14) or 20-68 – Second violation on the same calendar day</i>	<i>30.00</i>	<i>45.00</i>
<i>20-65(14) or 20-68 for the third or more violation on that calendar day</i>	<i>45.00</i>	<i>60.00</i>
20-69 (except subsection (i))	20.00	20.00
20-65(1); 20-65(2); 20-65(5); 20-65(8); 20-65(9); 20-66; 20-67; or 20-71	20.00	35.00
20-65(15)	25.00	40.00
20-65(4) or 20-74	33.00	48.00
20-69(i) or 20-76	125.00	140.00

- (2) If the applicable penalty listed in Column 2 is not paid within fifteen (15) days of the issuance by an officer of a notice of violation, then the applicable penalty listed in Column 3 shall apply. A late notice shall be sent by the city's department of billings and collections to the violator. Any violator to whom such late notice is

sent may pay the applicable penalty listed in Column 3 above within fifteen (15) days of the date of such late notice. If the violator does not pay the penalty pursuant to such late notice *and if the city elects to pursue enforcement of the unsettled parking violation notices through the courts*, a law enforcement notice pursuant to section 46.2-941 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, shall be sent by the city's department of billings and collections to the violator.

(c) *Once the city has elected to pursue enforcement of the unsettled parking violation notices through the courts and has sent a law enforcement notice pursuant to section 46.2-941, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, If a violator must does not pay the penalty provided for in Column 3 above within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a the law enforcement notice sent pursuant to section 46.2-941, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, or the clerk of the general district court and the officer responsible for issuing parking summons shall be notified of the failure to pay such penalty, in order that a summons be issued.*

2. The Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, is hereby amended and reordained by adding a new Section 20-90, Immobilization of Motor Vehicles Against Which There Are Outstanding Parking Violations, Article IV, Stopping, Standing and Parking, of Chapter 20, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, to read and provide as follows:

Sec. 20-90. Immobilization of motor vehicles against which there are outstanding parking violations.

(a) *Any motor vehicle parked on a public highway or public ground against which there are five (5) or more unpaid or otherwise unsettled parking violation notices may be immobilized in a manner which will prevent its removal or operation except by authorized law-enforcement personnel.*

(b) *The immobilization of the vehicle pursuant to this section shall be by or under the direction of an officer or employee of the police department.*

(c) *The law-enforcement officer or employee immobilizing the motor vehicle, or directing the immobilization, shall inform as soon as practicable the owner of the immobilized vehicle of the nature and circumstances of the unsettled parking violation notices for which the vehicle was immobilized.*

(d) *Once the vehicle is immobilized, there shall be placed on the vehicle, in a conspicuous manner, a notice warning that the vehicle has been immobilized and that any attempt to move the vehicle might damage it.*

(e) The owner of an immobilized vehicle, or other person acting on his behalf, shall be allowed at least twenty-four (24) hours from the time of immobilization to repossess or secure the release of the vehicle. Failure to repossess or secure the release of the vehicle within that time period may result in the removal of the vehicle to a storage area for safekeeping under the direction of law-enforcement personnel.

(f) The owner of a removed or immobilized motor vehicle, or other person acting on his behalf, shall be permitted to repossess or to secure the release of the vehicle by payment of the outstanding parking violation notices for which the vehicle was immobilized and by payment of all costs incidental to the immobilization, and storage of the vehicle, and the efforts to locate the owner of the vehicle.

(g) If the owner fails or refuses to pay the fines and costs identified in (f) above, or should the identity or whereabouts of the owner be unknown and unascertainable, the motor vehicle may be sold in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 46.2-1213 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, after giving notice to the owner at his last known address and to the holder of any lien of record with the office of the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles.

3. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect on and after February 1, 2006.

4. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 12 of the City Charter, the second reading of this ordinance by title is dispensed with.

ATTEST:

City Clerk.



CITY OF ROANOKE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

215 Church Avenue, S.W., Room 461

P.O. Box 1220

Roanoke, Virginia 24006-1220

Telephone: (540) 853-2821

Fax: (540) 853-6142

JESSE A. HALL

Director of Finance

email: jesse_hall@ci.roanoke.va.us

ANN H. SHAWVER

Deputy Director

email: ann_shawver@ci.roanoke.va.us

December 19, 2005

Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council
Roanoke, Virginia

Dear Mayor and Members of Council:

Subject: Authorization to Issue Bond Anticipation Notes

The purpose of this letter is to reserve space on Council's regular agenda on December 19, 2005, for a report on the above referenced subject.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse A. Hall".

Jesse A. Hall
Director of Finance

JAH:ca

c: Darlene L. Burcham, City Manager
William M. Hackworth, City Attorney

City of Roanoke School Board

7.a.

P.O. Box 13145, Roanoke VA 24031 ■ 540-853-2381 ■ FAX 540-853-2951

Kathy G. Stockburger,
Chair

David B. Trinkle, M.D.,
Vice Chair

Jason E. Bingham
David B. Carson
William H. Lindsey
Alvin L. Nash
Courtney A. Penn

Marvin T. Thompson,
Superintendent

Cindy H. Lee,
Clerk of the Board

December 19, 2005

The Honorable C. Nelson Harris, Mayor
and Members of Roanoke City Council
Roanoke, VA 24011

Dear Members of Council:


As the result of official School Board action at its meeting on December 13, the Board respectfully requests City Council to appropriate the following funds:

- \$173,343.00 for the Hurt Park Community Learning Center. The 21st Century Community Learning Center federal grant will address the critical attendance, academic, and parental involvement needs of the Hurt Park Community Learning Center.
- \$50,287.00 for the 2005-06 Roanoke Care Connection Clinic program to provide funds for the salary and expenses of the educational coordinator. The program will be one hundred percent reimbursed by State funds.
- \$8,250.00 for the 2006 Western Virginia Regional Science Fair being hosted by Roanoke City. Participating school districts and corporate and individual contributions will contribute toward the cost of the fair, with a local match cost to Roanoke City Schools in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Members of Council
Page 2
December 19, 2005

The School Board thanks you for your approval of the appropriation requests.

Sincerely,



Cindy H. Lee, Clerk

re

cc: Mrs. Kathy G. Stockburger
Mr. Marvin T. Thompson
Mr. Bernard J. Godek
Mr. Kenneth F. Mundy

Mrs. Darlene Burcham
Mr. William M. Hackworth
Mr. Jesse A. Hall
Mr. Paul Workman (with
accounting details)



CITY OF ROANOKE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

215 Church Avenue, S.W., Room 461

P.O. Box 1220

Roanoke, Virginia 24006-1220

Telephone: (540) 853-2821

Fax: (540) 853-6142

JESSE A. HALL

Director of Finance

email: jesse_hall@ci.roanoke.va.us

December 19, 2005

ANN H. SHAWVER

Deputy Director

email: ann_shawver@ci.roanoke.va.us

Honorable C. Nelson Harris, Mayor
Honorable Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Vice Mayor
Honorable M. Rupert Cutler, Council Member
Honorable Alfred T. Dowe, Jr., Council Member
Honorable Sherman P. Lea, Council Member
Honorable Brenda L. McDaniel, Council Member
Honorable Brian J. Wishneff, Council Member

Dear Mayor Harris and Members of City Council:

SUBJECT: School Board Appropriation Request

As a result of official School Board action at its meeting on December 13, the Board has requested City Council to appropriate the following funds:

- \$173,343 for the Hurt Park Community Learning Center. The 21st Century Community Learning Center federal grant will address the critical attendance, academic, and parental involvement needs of the Hurt Park Community Learning Center.
- \$50,287 for the 2005-06 Roanoke Care Connection Clinic program to provide funds for the salary and expenses of the educational coordinator. The program will be one hundred percent reimbursed by State funds.
- \$8,250 for the 2006 Western Virginia Regional Science Fair being hosted by Roanoke City. Participating school districts and corporate and individual contributions will contribute toward the cost of the fair, with a local match cost to Roanoke City Schools in the amount of \$2,000.

We recommend that you concur with this report of the School Board and adopt the attached budget ordinance to appropriate funding as outlined above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse A. Hall".

Jesse A. Hall
Director of Finance

c: Darlene L. Burcham, City Manager
William M. Hackworth, City Attorney
Mary F. Parker, City Clerk
Sherman M. Stovall, Director of Management and Budget
Marvin T. Thompson, Superintendent of City Schools

AN ORDINANCE to appropriate funding for the Hurt Park Community Learning Center, 2006 Roanoke Care Connection Clinic program, and 2006 Western Virginia Regional Science Fair, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2005-2006 School Fund Appropriations and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Roanoke that the following sections of the 2005-2006 School Fund Appropriations be, and the same are hereby, amended and reordained to read and provide as follows:

Appropriations		
Program Director	030-062-6342-6000-0124	\$ 42,000
Activity Assistants	030-062-6342-6000-0141	52,080
Media Assistant	030-062-6342-6000-0151	11,145
Retiree Health Credit	030-062-6342-6000-0200	231
Social Security	030-062-6342-6000-0201	8,050
Virginia Retirement	030-062-6342-6000-0202	3,036
Health Insurance	030-062-6342-6000-0204	4,880
Indirect Costs	030-062-6342-6000-0212	2,010
Contracted Services	030-062-6342-6000-0313	36,950
Conference Travel	030-062-6342-6000-0554	1,723
Supplies	030-062-6342-6000-0614	11,238
Educational Coordinators	030-062-6511-6554-0138	35,991
Retiree Health Credit	030-062-6511-6554-0200	198
Social Security	030-062-6511-6554-0201	2,753
Virginia Retirement	030-062-6511-6554-0202	4,182
Health Insurance	030-062-6511-6554-0204	5,363
Indirect Costs	030-062-6511-6554-0212	1,800
Security Guards	030-062-6890-6311-0195	279
Social Security	030-062-6890-6311-0201	21
Contracted Services	030-062-6890-6311-0313	2,685
Travel	030-062-6890-6311-0554	4,225
Membership Fees	030-062-6890-6311-0581	500
Instructional Supplies	030-062-6890-6311-0614	540
Revenues		
Federal Grant Receipts	030-062-6342-1102	173,343
Federal Grant Receipts	030-062-6511-1102	50,287
Local Match	030-062-6890-1101	2,000
Fees	030-062-6890-1103	6,250

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 12 of the City Charter, the second reading of this ordinance by title is hereby dispensed with.

ATTEST:

City Clerk.



Architectural Review Board
Board of Zoning Appeals
Planning Commission

CITY OF ROANOKE
PLANNING BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT

215 Church Avenue, S.W., Room 166
Roanoke, Virginia 24011
Telephone: (540) 853-1730 Fax: (540) 853-1230
E-mail: planning@ci.roanoke.va.us

A.1.

December 19, 2005

Honorable C. Nelson Harris, Mayor
Honorable Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Vice Mayor
Honorable M. Rupert Cutler, Council Member
Honorable Alfred T. Dowe, Jr., Council Member
Honorable Sherman P. Lea, Council Member
Honorable Brenda L. McDaniel, Council Member
Honorable Brian J. Wishneff, Council Member

Dear Mayor Harris and Members of City Council:

Subject: Request from Fielden and Mary Bayne to permanently vacate, discontinue and close a portion of Laura Road, N.W., adjacent to parcels bearing Official Tax Nos. 6150604, 6150608, 6150801 and 6150804.

Planning Commission Action:

Planning Commission public hearing was held on Thursday, November 17, 2005. Mr. Bayne presented his request. There was no audience comment. By a vote of 6-0 (Mr. Chrisman absent), the Commission recommended that Council approve the closure application.

Background:

The petitioners request vacation of an approximately 12,000 square foot portion of Laura Road, N.W. The petitioner owns Official Tax No. 6150608. The owners of Official Tax Nos. 6150604, 6150608, and 6150804 have agreed to the petition and will split the property evenly with the petitioner if this request is approved.

A map provided by the petitioner shows that Laura Road between Arcadia Drive and Cove Road was "closed but not vacated by Roanoke County Supervisor" on April 25, 1972. The City Attorney advised that since the City tax map shows this portion of Laura Road as a paper street that it could only be acquired through this petition and subsequent plat recordation. The City annexed this land from Roanoke County in 1976.

Mr. Talevi asked staff to reword the first condition (A) of the staff report so as to state that the vacated right-of-way would be divided evenly between the four property owners. Staff replied that such would be feasible and that the intention of the condition is to ensure that the division of the property would not allow one or two of the property owners to acquire a lot that a primary dwelling could be built upon.

Mr. Manetta asked staff if the vacation could result in any additional building on any of the four lots. Staff replied that there could be no additional primary structures due to the single-family zoning, and that the only potential building expansion would be in the form of accessory structures, which are limited to 40% of the size of the primary structure.

Considerations:

The parcels adjoining the subject portion of Laura Road are all zoned RS-3, Residential Single-Family District, and the land use of the petitioners' and the surrounding properties is predominantly single-family residential.

Staff received comments from AEP, Roanoke Gas Company, Verizon, and the Western Virginia Water Authority. All of these utility companies have facilities in the subject portion of Laura Road and will need to retain easements. The City Traffic Engineer advised that the request would not pose any transportation issues.

The petitioner has a swimming pool and a fence that is encroaching into the subject portion of Laura Road. Vacation of this portion of Laura Road would extend the petitioners' property line enough to eliminate the encroachment. A driveway from Green Ridge and Cove Roads to Official Tax No. 6150801 is also in the subject portion of Laura Road.

The Department of Real Estate Valuation estimated the value of the portion of right-of-way at \$18,500. Staff advised the petitioner that if he were to solely acquire the subject portion of Laura Road that staff's recommendation would be to sell the property at its assessed value. The minimum lot size in the RS-3 zoning district is 5,000 square feet. As a condition of vacation, the petitioner should be requested to split the vacated right-of-way between the adjoining property owners. This condition would then render the divided, vacated right-of-way as having limited value as compared to its value in its current configuration.

Recommendation:

By a vote of 6-0, the Planning Commission recommends approval of the petitioner's request to vacate, discontinue and close the subject portion of Laura Road, N.W., subject to the conditions listed below and further recommends that the petitioners not be charged for this property provided that a plat is recorded that will divide the subject portion of right-of-way between the owners of Official Tax Nos. 6150604, 6150608, 6150801 and 6150804.

- A. The applicant shall submit a subdivision plat to the Agent for the Planning Commission, receive all required approvals of, and record the plat with the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the City of Roanoke. Said plat shall combine all properties which would otherwise dispose of the land within the right of way to be vacated in a manner consistent with law, and retain appropriate easements for the installation and maintenance of any and all existing utilities that may be located within the right-of-way, including the right of ingress and egress. Said plat will divide the vacated right-of-way evenly between the adjoining property owners.
- B. Upon meeting all other conditions to the granting of the application, the applicant shall deliver a certified copy of this ordinance for recordation to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Roanoke, Virginia, indexing the same in the name of the City of Roanoke, Virginia, as Grantor, and in the name of the petitioner, and the names of any other parties in interest who may so request, as Grantees. The applicant shall pay such fees and charges as are required by the Clerk to effect such recordation.
- C. Upon recording a certified copy of this ordinance with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the City of Roanoke, Virginia, the applicant shall file with the Engineer for the City of Roanoke, Virginia, the Clerk's receipt, demonstrating that such recordation has occurred.
- D. If the above conditions have not been met within a period of one year from the date of adoption of this ordinance, then said ordinance shall be null and void with no further action by City Council being necessary.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard A. Rife, Chairman
Roanoke City Planning Commission

cc: Darlene L. Burcham, City Manager
Rolanda Johnson, Assistant City Manager for Community Development
William M. Hackworth, City Attorney
Steven J. Talevi, Assistant City Attorney
Petitioner

Fig

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

IN RE:)	1 st AMENDED APPLICATION
Application of Fielden and)	for VACATING, DISCONTINUING AND
Mary Bayne for vacation)	CLOSING OF A PORTION OF
of a portion of Laura Road, NW)	LAURA ROAD, NW

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

Fielden Bayne apply to have an approximately 50' x 240' portion of Laura Road, N.W., in the City of Roanoke, Virginia permanently vacated, discontinued, and closed, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 15.2 – 2005 and Section 30-14 Code of the City of Roanoke (1979) as amended. This portion of Laura Road, N.W., is more particularly described on the map attached and as follows:

From the southeastern corner of Official Tax No.6150608 extending in a northwesterly direction approximately 240' to the northeastern corner of Official Tax No.6150604, extending approximately 50' to the northwestern corner of Official Tax No.6150801, extending in a southeasterly direction approximately 240' to the southwestern corner of Official Tax No.6150804, and extending approximately 50' in a southwesterly direction to its point of origin.

The petitioner states that the grounds for this application are as follows: all four property owners adjoining the subject portion of Laura Road, N.W., are in agreement with this petition; the property to be vacated is presently being used as a driveway and yard space by the adjoining property owners; and the petitioners and adjoining property owners desire to use the property as additional yard space.

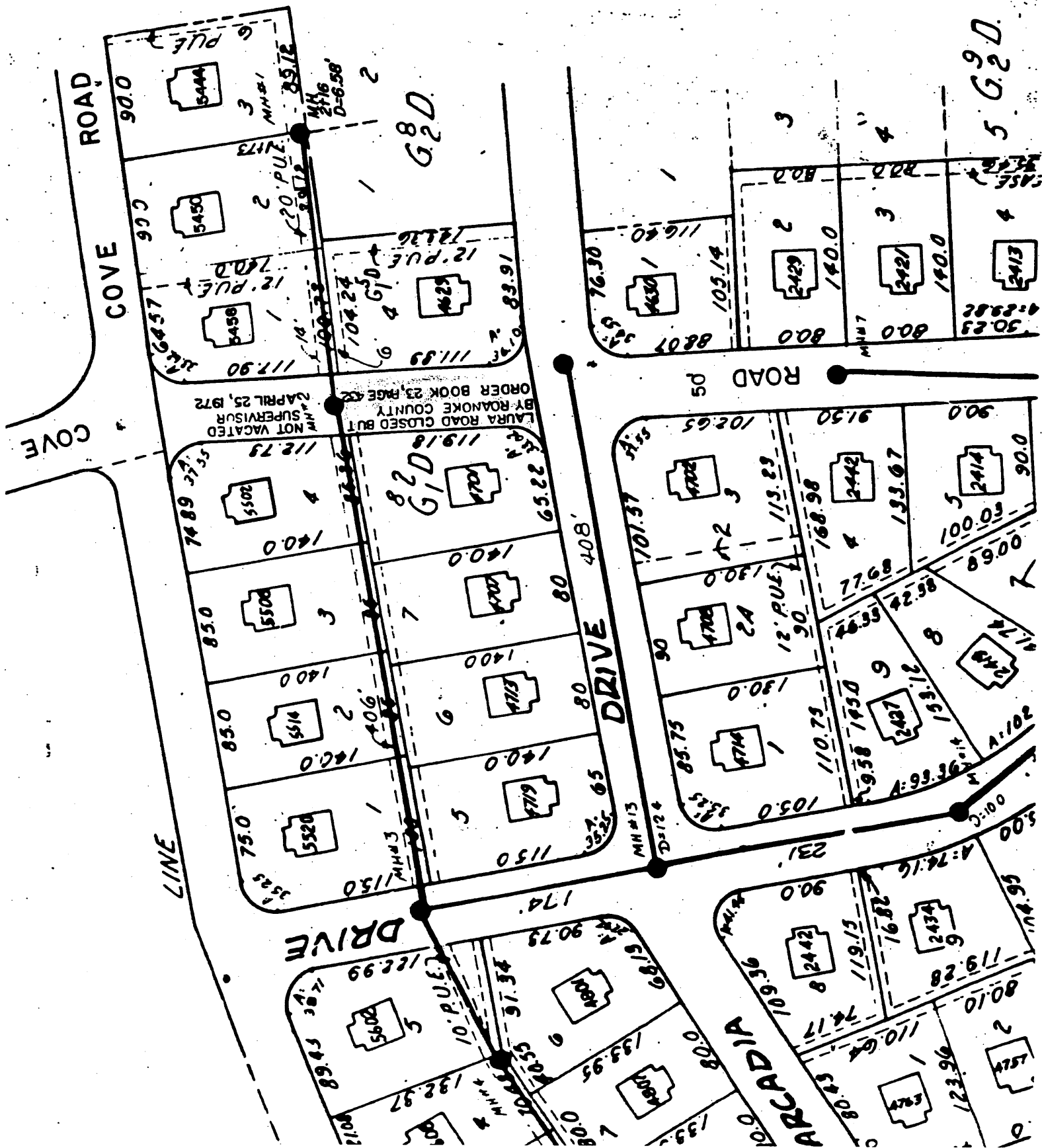
Wherefore, the petitioner respectfully requests that the above -described portion of Laura Road, N.W. to be vacated by the Council of the City of Roanoke, Virginia in accordance with Virginia Code Section 15.2 – 2006 and Section 30-14 Code of the City of Roanoke, Virginia (1979) as amended.

Respectfully submitted,

J.R. Bayne 10-21-05

LIST OF ADJOINING PROPERTY OWNERS

Official Tax No. & Street Address	Name of Property Owner	Mailing Address
6150608 4701 Arcadia Drive,NW	Fielden and Mary Bayne	4701 Arcadia Drive,NW Roanoke, VA 24019
6150604 5502 Green Ridge Road, NW	Christa Depas	5502 Green Ridge Road, NW Roanoke, VA 24019
6150801 5458 Cove Road, NW	Patricia Keller-Reed	5458 Cove Road, NW Roanoke, VA 24019
6150804 4629 Arcadia Drive, NW	Watson and Mary Johnson	4629 Arcadia Drive, NW Roanoke, VA 24



SJT
11/28/05

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA,

AN ORDINANCE permanently vacating, discontinuing and closing a certain public right-of-way in the City of Roanoke, Virginia, as more particularly described hereinafter; and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

WHEREAS, Fielden and Mary Bayne filed an application to the Council of the City of Roanoke, Virginia ("City Council"), in accordance with law, requesting City Council to permanently vacate, discontinue and close the public right-of-way described hereinafter;

WHEREAS, the City Planning Commission, after giving proper notice to all concerned as required by §30-14, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, and after having conducted a public hearing on the matter, has made its recommendation to Council;

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on such application by City Council on December 19, 2005, after due and timely notice thereof as required by §30-14, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, at which hearing all parties in interest and citizens were afforded an opportunity to be heard on such application;

WHEREAS, it appearing from the foregoing that the land proprietors affected by the requested closing of the subject public right-of-way have been properly notified; and

WHEREAS, from all of the foregoing, City Council considers that no inconvenience will result to any individual or to the public from permanently vacating, discontinuing and closing such public right-of-way.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Roanoke, Virginia, that the public right-of-way situate in the City of Roanoke, Virginia, and more particularly described as

follows:

An approximate 50' x 240' portion of Laura Road, N.W., adjacent to parcels bearing Official Tax Nos. 6150604, 6150608, 6150801 and 6150804

be, and is hereby permanently vacated, discontinued and closed, and that all right and interest of the public in and to the same be, and hereby is, released insofar as City Council is empowered so to do with respect to the closed portion of the right-of-way, reserving however, to the City of Roanoke and any utility company, including, specifically, without limitation, providers to or for the public of cable television, electricity, natural gas or telephone service, an easement for sewer and water mains, television cable, electric wires, gas lines, telephone lines, and related facilities that may now be located in or across such public right-of-way, together with the right of ingress and egress for the maintenance or replacement of such lines, mains or utilities, such right to include the right to remove, without the payment of compensation or damages of any kind to the owner, any landscaping, fences, shrubbery, structure or any other encroachments on or over the easement which impede access for maintenance or replacement purposes at the time such work is undertaken; such easement or easements to terminate upon the later abandonment of use or permanent removal from the above-described public right-of-way of any such municipal installation or other utility or facility by the owner thereof.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the applicant shall submit to the Subdivision Agent, receive all required approvals of, and record with the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the City of Roanoke, a subdivision plat, with such plat combining all properties which would otherwise be landlocked by the requested closure, or otherwise disposing of the land within the right-of-way to be vacated in a manner consistent with law, and in a manner which divides the vacated right-of-way evenly between the four (4) aforereferenced adjacent parcels, and combines such vacated right-of-

way with such four adjacent parcels, such resulting parcels not to be further subdivided or combined, and retaining appropriate easements, together with the right of ingress and egress over the same, for the installation and maintenance of any and all existing utilities that may be located within the right-of-way.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the applicant shall, upon meeting all other conditions to the granting of the application, deliver to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the City of Roanoke, Virginia, a certified copy of this ordinance for recordation where deeds are recorded in such Clerk's Office, indexing the same in the name of the City of Roanoke, Virginia, as Grantor, and in the name of the Petitioner, and the names of any other parties in interest who may so request, as Grantees, and pay such fees and charges as are required by the Clerk to effect such recordation.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the applicant shall, upon a certified copy of this ordinance being recorded by the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the City of Roanoke, Virginia, where deeds are recorded in such Clerk's Office, file with the City Engineer for the City of Roanoke, Virginia, the Clerk's receipt, demonstrating that such recordation has occurred.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if the above conditions have not been met within a period of twelve (12) months from the date of the adoption of this ordinance, then such ordinance shall be null and void with no further action by City Council being necessary.

BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED that pursuant to the provisions of Section 12 of the City Charter, the second reading of this ordinance by title is hereby dispensed with.

ATTEST:

City Clerk.



Architectural Review Board
Board of Zoning Appeals
Planning Commission

CITY OF ROANOKE PLANNING BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT

215 Church Avenue, S.W., Room 166

Roanoke, Virginia 24011

Telephone: (540) 853-1730 Fax: (540) 853-1230

E-mail: planning@ci.roanoke.va.us

December 19, 2005

Honorable C. Nelson Harris, Mayor
Honorable Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Vice Mayor
Honorable M. Rupert Cutler, Council Member
Honorable Alfred T. Dowe, Jr., Council Member
Honorable Sherman P. Lea, Council Member
Honorable Brenda L. McDaniel, Council Member
Honorable Brian J. Wishneff, Council Member

Dear Mayor Harris and Members of City Council:

Subject: Amendment of **Vision 2001-2020**, the City's comprehensive plan, to include the Roanoke Library Comprehensive Study.

Planning Commission Action:

Planning Commission public hearing was held on Thursday, November 17, 2005. After presentation and public comment, the Commission, by a vote of 6-0 (Mr. Chrisman absent) recommended that City Council approve the amendment of **Vision 2001-2020** to include the Roanoke Library Comprehensive Study.

Background:

In April 2004 the City of Roanoke contracted with Hidell-Katz-McConnell & Associates to prepare a comprehensive plan for the Roanoke public library system. They were asked to identify and make recommendations regarding system services, facilities, funding, and the possible benefits of integrating with the Roanoke County System. As part of the assessment, the consultant team conducted a series of neighborhood and public work sessions, and detailed telephone surveys and questionnaires of system users and key stakeholders.

Considerations:

This Library Study identifies several positive aspects of the City and County library systems (e.g., the Virginia Room and neighborhood loyalty to

their branch); however its major conclusions are that the current budget levels for library staffing, facilities, collections, technology, and programs are inadequate. These conclusions are substantiated by the following findings:

- Over 60% of City of Roanoke residents do not use the City of Roanoke Library.
- State of Virginia funding for the Roanoke Public Library has decreased over 21% from \$248,581 to \$195,947 over the past six years.
- Staffing for both the City of Roanoke and Roanoke County library systems is declining and is well below all peer library comparisons.
- All but one of the city and county libraries were built before the mid-1970s. The only newer addition is the law library, which was initiated in 1982.
- The library facilities are not inviting. They are small, lack seating, have insufficient lighting, and don't provide enough programming space or parking.

To address these issues the consultants recommend significant changes and improvements to the City library system. It suggests coordinating and consolidating selected library operations of the County and City systems, building new facilities to serve regional and neighborhood needs, and further developing services that current patrons want, such as better access to information technology and alternative media, such as books on compact disc and e-books.

After presentation from Sheila Umberger, Acting Director of Libraries, Mr. Rife opened the floor for public comment. He advised that he had received a letter of support from M. Caldwell Butler (attached). The following persons spoke.

Joyce Waugh, Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce

- Said the Chamber supports a regional library system and felt that investments in the library system would enhance the entire valley-wide system.

Mike Ramsey, President of the Roanoke Public Library Foundation

- Spoke in favor of the library plan.

Owen Stultz, member of the steering committee and advisory board

- Encouraged the Commission to not only adopt the plan but officially support the community effort. He said that libraries were a municipal issue that need much attention and were on equal stature, in terms of support, with police and fire.

Kirk Navratil, Member, Friends of the Library

- Said that Friends of the Library want to see the plan as part of the City's comprehensive plan because libraries are a critical part of what cities offer to their citizens and what citizens need from their cities.

John Garland, Secretary, Friends of the Library

- Said that libraries have both a social and economic impact. He said that Friends of the Library endorse the plan and asked that the Commission make a strong recommendation to City Council.

Mary Ann Johnson, Member, Roanoke Library Foundation

- Said that libraries contributed greatly to the quality of life in a community and were a draw to people from communities outside the City.

Stan Breakell

- Said the plan contained a lot of good data and felt it was important to keep in mind that both the City and County had the same data. He said that the key to success was City/County collaboration and he felt that would happen in the future.

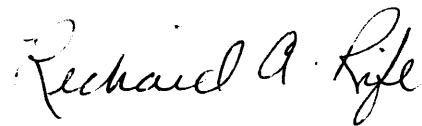
Nancy Patterson (by letter read by Mr. Breakell)

- Said she is a supporter of libraries and expressed her gratitude for the resources in our libraries and complimented the library staff.

Recommendation:

By a vote of 6-0, the Planning Commission recommends approval of the Roanoke Library Comprehensive Study as a component of **Vision 2001-2020** and further recommends that the City Council pursue the creation of a new authority to oversee a regional library system.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard A. Rife". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard A. Rife, Chairman
Roanoke City Planning Commission

cc: Darlene L. Burcham, City Manager
Rolanda Russell, Assistant City Manager
Steven J. Talevi, Assistant City Attorney

IN THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

This 17th day of November, 2005

A RESOLUTION recommending the adoption of the Roanoke Library Comprehensive Study as an element of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

WHEREAS, representatives from the City and County Library systems, members of the City and County Administrations, the Steering Committee for the Roanoke Library Comprehensive Study, and various focus groups and key stakeholders in the community have met a number of times;

WHEREAS, the Roanoke Library Comprehensive Study has been reviewed by the City of Roanoke Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Roanoke Library Comprehensive Study has been advertised in accordance with Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, and pursuant to that notice, a public hearing was held on November 17, 2005, at which all persons having an interest in the matter were given a chance to be heard.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Planning Commission of the City of Roanoke that it recommends to City Council that the Roanoke Library Comprehensive Study, dated August 2005, be adopted as an element of the City's Comprehensive Plan, and that by signature of its Chairman below, the Planning Commission hereby certifies the attached copy of the plan to City Council.

ATTEST: 

Chairman

M. Caldwell Butler

4434 Pheasant Ridge Road, Unit 202

Roanoke, VA 24014

November 16, 2005

Planning Building and Economic Development.
Noel C Taylor Municipal Building, Room 166
215 Church Ave S.W.
Roanoke, VA 24011.

Dear Commissioners.

I am aware of your meeting presently scheduled for November 17 at 1:30 p.m. to consider the Roanoke Library Comprehensive Study. As a member of the Roanoke Library Foundation, a lifelong user of the Roanoke library, and a son of the founder of the Roanoke public library (Sarah Caldwell Butler), I am vitally interested in the Roanoke Library System, and its future, and I regret that I am unable to be at this meeting.

However, I have read the Resolution of the Library Advisory Board, and enthusiastically endorse every part of it, particularly the two suggestions requiring immediate action by the City Council. In addition, I do think that this Commission and the Council should affirm their intention and desire to maximize the coordination of all library related activities, including planning, of the City and County with the objective of establishing a City-County library authority as soon as possible.

More specifically, I suggest that the city and county should explore NOW the possibility of joint participation in the tentatively planned library branch in Roanoke County to the end that it may incorporate all the recommendations of the comprehensive study and provide a fine example of what our libraries can and should be in the future.

I appreciate your service to the City.

Sincerely,



M. Caldwell Butler

NOTICE

The Attachment to the City Planning Commission report for the Comprehensive Library Study is too large to scan and may be reviewed at the Office of the City Clerk, 215 Church Avenue, S.W.

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA,

AN ORDINANCE approving the Roanoke Library Comprehensive Study, and amending Vision 2001 - 2020, the City's Comprehensive Plan, to include the Roanoke Library Comprehensive Study; and dispensing with the second reading of this ordinance by title.

WHEREAS, the Roanoke Library Comprehensive Study (the "Study") was presented to the Planning Commission;

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on November 17, 2005, and recommended adoption of the Study and amending Vision 2001 - 2020, the City's Comprehensive Plan (the "Comprehensive Plan"), to include such Study; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of §15.2-2204, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, a public hearing on the proposed Study was held before this Council on Monday, December 19, 2005, at which hearing all citizens so desiring were given an opportunity to be heard and to present their views on such amendment.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Roanoke as follows:

1. That this Council hereby approves the Roanoke Library Comprehensive Study and amends Vision 2001- 2020, the City's Comprehensive Plan, to include the Roanoke Library Comprehensive Study as an element thereof.

2. That the City Clerk is directed to forthwith transmit attested copies of this ordinance to the City Planning Commission.

3. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 12 of the City Charter, the second reading of this ordinance by title is hereby dispensed with.

ATTEST:

City Clerk.



WILLIAM M. HACKWORTH
CITY ATTORNEY

CITY OF ROANOKE
OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY
464 MUNICIPAL BUILDING
215 CHURCH AVENUE, SW
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TIMOTHY R. SPENCER
STEVEN J. TALEVI
GARY E. TEGENKAMP
DAVID L. COLLINS
HEATHER P. FERGUSON
ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEYS

December 7, 2005

The Honorable Mayor and Members
of City Council
Roanoke, Virginia

Re: Charter Amendment

Dear Mayor Harris and Council Members:

As requested by the Legislative Committee during its meeting on December 5, 2005, I have prepared the attached resolution requesting the General Assembly to amend the City Charter to add a new Section 19.1 that would authorize advisory referenda in the City.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the proposed measure.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William M. Hackworth".

William M. Hackworth
City Attorney

WMH/vt
Attachment
cc: Darlene Burcham, City Manager
Jesse Hall, Director of Finance
Mary Parker, City Clerk
Tom Dick, Legislative Liaison

UN#

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA,

A RESOLUTION requesting the 2006 Session of the General Assembly to add a Section 19.1 to the Roanoke Charter of 1952 in order to authorize advisory referenda in the City on any proposed question or group of questions relating to the affairs of the City.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of §15.2-202, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, at least ten days' notice and an informative summary of the amendment desired has been published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City, of the time and place of a public hearing for citizens to be heard to determine if they desire that City Council request the 2006 Session of the General Assembly to amend the Roanoke Charter of 1952;

WHEREAS, the required public hearing was conducted on December 19, 2005; and

WHEREAS, after considering the matter and the comments made during the public hearing, Council desires to request the General Assembly to amend its Roanoke Charter of 1952.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Roanoke as follows:

1. The Council hereby requests that the 2006 Session of the General Assembly add a Section 19.1 to the Roanoke Charter of 1952 in order to authorize advisory referenda in the City on any proposed question or group of questions relating to the affairs of the City, such Section to read and provide as follows:

§19.1. Advisory referenda.

The council shall have authority to order, by resolution directed to the Circuit Court of the City of Roanoke, the submission to the registered voters of the city for an advisory referendum on any proposed question or group of questions relating to the affairs of the city. Upon receipt of such resolution, the Court shall order an election to be held at the next general election. The election shall be conducted and the result thereof ascertained and determined in the manner provided by general law of the

Commonwealth for the conduct of referendum elections, and by the regular election officials of the city. Following certification of the election results by the Electoral Board to the Circuit Court, the Court shall enter an order proclaiming the results of the election, and shall transmit a duly certified copy of the order to the council.

If a petition requesting the submission of a question or group of questions relating to the affairs of the city, set forth in such petition, signed by registered voters equal in number to twenty-five percent, or 5,000, whichever number is the greater, of the largest number of votes cast in any general or primary election held in the city during the five years immediately preceding, each signature to which has been witnessed by a person whose affidavit to that effect is attached to the petition, and the address of each signator having been given along with the signature, is filed with the clerk of the Circuit Court of the City of Roanoke, the clerk shall forthwith certify that fact to the Court after the city's registrar has verified that the requisite number of persons registered to vote in the city have signed the petition. Upon certification the Court shall order an election to be held at the next general election after the receipt of such resolution, in which such proposed question or questions shall be submitted as a resolution to the registered voters of the city for their approval or disapproval. Such election shall be conducted and the result thereof ascertained and determined in the manner provided by general law of the Commonwealth for the conduct of referendum elections, and by the regular election officials of the city. If a majority of those voting approve the proposed referendum, then the clerk of the Court shall communicate such result to the council for its consideration as an advisory resolution.

2. The City Clerk is directed to send two attested copies of this resolution, a copy of the requested amendments to the Roanoke Charter of 1952, a publisher's affidavit showing that the public hearing on this request was advertised, and a certified copy of Council's minutes showing the action taken at the advertised public hearing to the Honorable John S. Edwards, Member, Senate of Virginia, the Honorable Onzlee Ware, Member, House of Delegates, and the Honorable William H. Fralin, Jr., Member, House of Delegates, with the request that they introduce a bill in the 2006 Session of the General Assembly to amend the Roanoke Charter of 1952.

ATTEST:

City Clerk.